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Ottawa's Irv Osterer designs Israeli stamp

Ottawa graphic artist and graphic design instructor Irving Osterer has designed Israel's first-ever hockey-themed postage stamp. Featuring a photo of defenceman Ron Soreanu, an Ottawa resident who plays for Israel's national hockey team, the limited edition stamp was commissioned by the Israel Ice Hockey Federation. See story on Page 10.

Google search leads **Ambrose to Jewish roots**

By Francie Greenspoon

'I was born and raised in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas where there was no electricity, running water, or Jewish people. My mother had run far away from the Judaism with which she was disenchanted when she met my father on the remnants of a commune. 1 was raised bardly knowing I was Jewish, much less knowing what being Jewish meant."

Sophie Ambrose, 28, now a Los Angeles-based speech pathologist, told her story to 34 Lions gathered at the home of Cberyl Dubrofsky, September 3, for Ottawa's annual Lion of Judah dinner.

Ambrose grew up in Jerusalem, Arkansas, population 171, where her typical day began at 5:00 am when she'd tip over her only pair

of shoes to let out the poisonous spiders that had nestled inside overnight. Her family ate only the vegetables, chickens and hogs they grew or raised and she remembers her late-night trips to the outhouse as feats of survival considering the wildcats, bears and snakes about.

Ambrose said she was initially home-schooled but, by Grade 3, (Continued on page 4)

Truda Rosenberg writes memoir of the Holocaust

It took Truda Rosenberg almost 40 years to write Unmasked, a book about ber experiences surviving the Holocaust that will be officially launched September 22 at Library and Archives Canada

But it is not because she kept silent about her plight. And it certainly was not because she suppressed her memories.

Now 87 years old and still a practising psychologist, Rosenberg was 19 when the Nazis invaded her hometown in Poland. Within the course of two weeks, her entire family was gone. Throughout the war, and for years after, her focus was on staying alive. That required her to assume three different identities in addition to showing incredible bravery, resilience and ingenuity.

Rosenberg began talking about her dramatic and sometimes miraculous survival odvssey when she arrived in Israel in 1971 and has continued recounting these stones to interested audiences ever since. Back then, she says, many Israelis did not want to listen. They had no sympathy for Shoah victims, believing they were like sheep led to slaughter without any resistance.

Still, she did not stop telling her stories. She says attitudes abruptly changed when the Israeli athletes were murdered at the 1972 Munich Olympics.



Unmasked, Truda Rosenberg's collection of stories about her experiences surviving the Holocaust will be launched Septem-(Photo: Benita Baker)

"That's when I started talking at schools," she says. "When the siren sounded on Yom HaShoah and for the first time everything came to a stop, I felt my efforts were working."

Why does she insist on talking about her experiences when some survivors will not, or cannot, tell

"Some survivors are afraid to let people know they are Jewish," she says. "I don't think I can ever be afraid again."

CARTIER

Reading Unmasked in the com-(Continued on page 2)

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Education and outreach

We have entered the High Holiday period, a perfect opportunity for personal and community introspection. This year is an especially important time for such an exercise. With the economic challenges of the past year, what better time to be sure our community goals and values are being met?

This letter is meant to be a point of discussion and not accusatory in any sense.

My feelings of the core goals of a successful community are fourfold:

1. Encourage and promote Jewish education. Every Jewish child is entitled to a Jewish education:

2. Caring for the Jewish elderly and Jewish poor;

3. Tikun Olam, caring for the disadvan-

taged of the general community at large;

I would like to address the first and fourth goals in this letter.

To properly encourage Jewish education, certain core principles have to be met. Every Jewish child must be treated equally, not theoretically, but practically; the sytem in place must validate the choices of parents; and the cost of Jewish education must be affordable and not exorbitant.

We have a system in Ottawa that very heavily supports one school with, literally, tokens being given to the other well-run Jewish schools. To say that one school is the "community school" while the others are not is, frankly, a paternalistic attitude. It is also a system that is not working.

What about a simpler plan under which all Jewish children are entitled to a Jewish education? Using a voucher system, the community would subsidize each child equally and would let the parents choose which Jewish school they wish their child to attend. This is a model that is successful in other cities. It is equitable, fair and eloquent. I suspect that it would raise the percentage of Jewish children receiving a Jewish education markedly

With the large assimilation rate and disaffected youth, is this the correct time for cutting community funding for outreach groups, such as the Jewish Youth Library, to zero over the next two years? This does not seem to me to be a rational decision and effectively negates one of what I feel to be the core values of the community.

If savings bave to be found, the first place to look should be the administration and offices, not the people working on the front-

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa should be a source of unity and relevancy to the Jewish community-at-large.

I look forward to positive action regarding the above

With best wishes for a happy and sweet New Year, Joseph Caytak

Letters welcome

Letters to the Editor are welcome if they are brief, signed, timely and of interest to our readership. The Bulletin reserves the right to refuse, edit or condense letters. The Mailbag eolumn will be published as space permits

Send your letters to Michael Regenstreif, Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9; or by e-mail to

Rosenberg's Unmasked to be launched Sept 22

(Continued from page 1) fort of my living room, Rosenberg's tales of hardship, deprivation, hunger and brutality are unimaginable. Born Gertruda Osterman, her first step in escaping Poland was to adopt the identity of a Catholic girl. Unfortunately, she was captured and, along with hundreds of others, marched to the cattle train that was to take them to Belzec. Two men offered to help her jump from a small opening in the moving car. To the sound of ber aunt chanting Kol Nidre, she jumped and escaped certain death at the concentration camp.

Comfortable speaking to groups, Rosenberg never considered writing a book about her experiences, even though friends and colleagues had been encouraging her to do so for years.

"I do not consider myself a writer, and prefer to state that I am a storyteller," she says in the book's introduction.

But in an uncanny beshert moment, she just sat down one day and began to write.

"I suddenly realized it

was the 65th anniversary of the day I jumped out of the train," she says, her voice clearly emotional.

Rosenberg insists Unmasked is not an autobiogra-

"It is not about me," she asserts, "It is a collection of stories about the Holocaust in which I was involved."

She also points out that, although ail of her family perished, the book is dedicated not to them, but to all who were murdered during the

"When we talk about them, they cannot be annihilated," she says.

She began writing during her stint as a scholar-in-residence at Carleton University, where she bonded with John Osborne, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

"Hers is a story that must never be forgotten or allowed to fade," Osborne writes in the foreword.

The book has Carleton's full support and, in return, Rosenberg is donating her royalties from Unmasked to the university.

Rosenberg's charade of living as a non-Jew continued after the war. She worked with the British army for a time, but years of living under an assumed name and constant worry of being caught were taking their toll. She desperately wanted to develop a sincere relationsbip with people and decided that nursing was the way to do it. She applied to, and was

accepted by, the British Ministry of Health in London.

In another wonderfully serendinitous story in her book, while waiting to hear about her application, she volunteered at a little German hospital for British families. She spent a lot of time caring for her first patient, a woman who had been injured in a car accident. It turned out the woman was the one who processed the nursing applications for the ministry.

The pivotal story that underlies the choice of Unmasked as the book's title is a drama worthy of a best-selling novel. The year: 1951. The scene: a group of doctors and nurses, including Rosenberg living as a Polish Catholic nurse, relaxing togetber over a cup of tea. Out of the blue, someone says, "What a pity Hitler did not kill all the Jews."

Nobody reacts. This still astounds Rosenberg today.

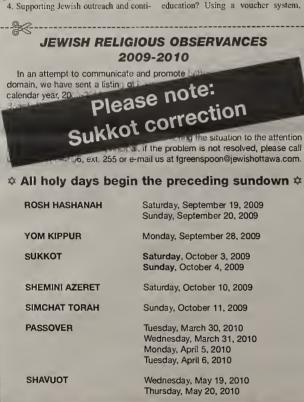
"Why do you say that?" she asked.

"Because Jews are a lazy lot; they only want to be doctors, lawyers, accountants. Have you ever seen a Jewish nurse?" was the reply.

"You are looking at one," said Rosenberg.

Finally, she is unmasked. At last, she can live openly as

Unmasked by Rosenberg will be launched Tuesday, September 22, 5:00 pm, in Room A, Library and Archives Canada. Wellington Street.



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Linda Kerzner and Jason Shinder, chairs of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa 2010 Annual Campaign, give their time and energy to ensure a strong and vibrant Jewish Community.

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OPEN CASTING CALL

For New Production of

Joseph and The Amazing

Technicolor Dreamcoat

Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be presented by Tamir on May 13, 2010 at Centrepointe Theatre.

What will make this show particularly special is that it will include a cast featuring some of the most talented entertainers in Ottawa, who will perform together with Tamir residents in a show that will demonstrate the marvellous possibilities that come from the inclusion of such a diverse group of people in the community.

Tamir is the organization meeting the need for community living in a Jewish environment for adults with developmental disabilities in the Ottawa area.

Roles that will be auditioned for include:

Joseph

Jacob

Ladies

Men

The Eleven Sons

Ishmaelites

Auditions for Joseph will be held October 6 and 7 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. This production will include many opportunities for volunteers interested in helping with activities. Anyone interested in volunteering or auditioning for one of the roles should contact Sue Walker at 613-725-3519 ext 113.

Producers: Robert Gould, Morris Neuman, Marty Black

Director: Barry Karp

MEMBERS MEETING

A meeting of the members of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa

will be held on

Wednesday, November 4, 2009 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Social Hall A Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa

Meeting is open to the Public

Contact: Dawn Paterson (613) 798-4696, ext. 236 dpaterson@jewishottawa.com

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At the Lion of Judah dinner (left to right): keynote speaker Sophie Ambrose; dinner host Cheryl Dubrofsky; Lion of Judah Division Co-chair Susan Firestone; and Women's Campalgn Chair Linda Kerzner. (Photo: Carolene Preap)

Lion of Judah movement makes 'a tremendous difference'

(Continued from page 1)

sbe'd walk a mile to wait for the bus to the nearest school, an hour away, where 100 students attended kindergarten through Grade 12. The principal doubled as her school bus driver.

As Ambrose explained, she grew up with little awareness of her Jewish heritage, or of Judaism. "My grandparents on my father's side were devout Christians who attended a Methodist church every Sunday."

Despite the fact her maternal grandparents were Jewish – Ambrose's grandfather was president of his synagogue and her grandmother was involved with the sisterhood – growing up in the Bible Belt of the American South meant her church was her community and her only spiritual influence.

It was when she went to graduate school in Kansas, Ambrose said, that she started questioning everything. She took a world religions course and discovered the commonality between her value system and Judaic values of community, education and morality.

On a mission to discover more, a simple Google search changed Ambrose's life.

"I found out about Birthright Israel," she said. "It had to be too good to be true. But it wasn't. I attended Birthright Israel and March of the Living and had never been with as many Jews in my life as there were on my bus. For the first time, I was immersed in Judaism. I saw it from a cultural, ancestral and religious perspective."

In Israel, Ambrose lit Chanukah candles for the first time in her life, put a note in a wall she bad barely known existed, attended her first Bar Mitzvah and participated in her very first Shabbat dinner, "all because of the generosity, vision and leadership of people like yourselves," she told the Lions.

The Jewish education of Sophie Ambrose had begun.

She became involved with a Young Judaea group to learn more about Israel; sat on a Hillel board of directors to work with unaffiliated Jews like herself; attended a leadership assembly in Pennsylvania where she met an inspiring Israeli soldier with whom she returned to Israel, providing her with an opportunity to revisit Israel from a different perspective, and studied Jewish pluralism while there.

More trips to Israel, creating programs for young adults with the Kansas Federation, hosting regular Shabbat dinners sponsored by Birthright, attending synagogue regularly on Shabbat and actively promoting synagogue involvement are just some of the many ways in which Ambrose said she has become a fully engaged Jewish woman.

Ambrose was thanked by Dorothy Nadolny, one of 20 endowed Ottawa Lions, who credited the Lion of Judah movement for making a tremendous difference to Jews locally and throughout the world.

Nadolny spoke about the importance of endowing gifts and announced that Rhoda Levitan and Lisa Rosenkrantz are the latest Ottawa Lions to have endowed theirs.

Susan Firestone, co-chair of the Lion of Judah Division of the Women's Campaign, announced two new Lions, Jessica Kerzner and Leiba Krantzberg, bringing the number of Ottawa Lions to 80.

Women's Campaign Chair Linda Kerzner, a Lion of Judah herself, said the Lions are "women who get it."

Kerzner said that now, more than ever, after an economically challenging year, the continued support of the Lions is essential.

"Every dollar counts," said Kerzner.
"Every dollar that we don't raise means there is a corresponding dollar that we don't spend."

For more information about the Lion of Judah program, call 613-798-4696, ext. 270.

New Shalom Sesame: Grover visits Israel for series geared to North American kids

By Dina Kraft
HERZLIYA, Israel (JTA) Grover has been getting to know
Israel

The furry, blue Sesame Street character has visited the Dead Sea, Caesarea, the Western Wall and even Jerusalem's open-air market, Shouk Machane Yehuda, to sample the produce.

Along with Disney Channel star Annelise van der Pol, Grover has been exploring the Jewish ståte as part of a Sesame Workshop production called Shalom Sesame.

The 12-part series is geared toward North American Jewish children and their families to forge a sense of Jewish identity by providing a taste of Israel, Jewish traditions and culture. It will include celebrity appearances by Jake Gyllenhaal, Debra Messing and possibly Ben Stiller, among others, and is scheduled for a Chanukah 2010 release.

A 1986 production of the same name sold one million copies and is considered the top-selling Jewish educational title.

More than 20 years later, it was

time to update and overhaul the

"The needs of the Jewish community have changed," said Danny Labin, the project's executive director, speaking at the studio outside of Tel Aviv where segments are being filmed.

Labin noted shifting demographic realities such as intermarriage and Israel's large immigrant populations from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia. Two of the new human characters reflect this diversity in Israel: One is an Ethiopian Israeli woman, the other a Russian immigrant.

Scripts and concepts have been reviewed with the help of a team of senior experts in Jewish education representing the religious streams and a range of backgrounds, from Chabad to Reform.

"We are trying to make something that is accessible to those not ensconced in a formal Jewish framework to help parents feel more comfortable and get them interested in a search for identity themselves," Labin said.

The project also intends to sup-



Grover chats with an Israeli boy at an overlook of the Western Wall in Jerusalem's Old City during the filming of Shalom Sesame on August 28, 2009. (Photo: Koby Gideon / Flash 90 / JTA)

plement the TV show with an interactive website and other media platforms, including plans to use joint online projects to help connect Jewish Israeli and North American children with the show as a vehicle.

In the first episode of Shalom Sesame, the character played by van der Pol – a Jewish-American actress who was named after Anne Frank – is seen on a plane flying to Israel for her first visit.

After hearing Grover, cast as a flight attendant, shout out "Kosher meal! Aisle 10!" they strike up a friendship and decide to travel together throughout the country.

(Continued on page 15)

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Join the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's Young Adult Division for the 5th ANNUAL MITZVAH DAY Sunday, December 6th, 2009



For more information contact Lindsay Rothenberg, (613) 798-4696, ext. 270

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Meet Barry Sohn, new president/COO of the SJCC

As chair of the board of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC), I am pleased to announce that our new president and chief operating officer (COO) is Barry Sohn.

Barry was recently the executive director of Seattle JCC and previously executive director of the ICC in Akron Ohio and assistant executive director of the JCC in Baltimore. The SJCC board and staff are excited to have Barry join us.

Thank you to the SJCC search committee of Stuart Ages, Lisa Miller and Debbie Weiss for their efforts.

And many, many thanks to our interim president/COO, Maxine Miska, for her leadership and dedication to the SJCC over the past 13 months. The SJCC is well positioned for another successful year.

Here are some first impressions from * * * * * * * * *

I've always felt that September is a tremendous time of change. School bas started and, as Jews, we anticipate the New Year as we reflect on what was and what might be ahead.

Over the years, I have learned to embrace change. It is with this spirit that I





Federation Report

Arnie Vered, chair and Barry Sohn, president and COO Soloway Jewish Community Centre

look forward to my new life in Ottawa. Change can be exhilarating and all indications are that Ottawa is a wonderful community full of life and vibrant with energy. I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to be president/COO of the SJCC.

Visiting Ottawa, I've been impressed with the scope and quality of services available in the Jewish community. The Jewish Community Campus is a magnificent communal asset along with so many Jewish agencies, organizations and syna-

I am thankful to so many who have welcomed me and my family during our visits. I look forward to working with you all in continuing to make the SJCC a centre of Jewish life in our community. I welcome your ideas and suggestions as we

begin our experience together in Ottawa.

I have been a Jewish communal professional for 32 years and have worked in such wonderful communities as New York, Baltimore, Akron/Cleveland and Seattle. My initial sense of Ottawa is that the best is ahead of me

I am impressed with the spirit of cooperation in the community. I love the campus concept and sense of Jewish neighbourhood that Ottawa possesses. It's a refreshing dynamic that doesn't exist everywbere.

I believe the scope of programs and services at the SJCC are solid. I have enjoyed meeting the board and staff and believe our volunteer and professional leadership are strong. My hope is to instil excellence in everything we do at the SJCC. Our programs will continue to be thoughtfully planned, promoted and implemented.

Our staff will be professional, courteous and helpful to the needs of members and guests. The centre will be established as a relevant, vital piece of Jewish life in Ottawa. This will be accomplished by building bridges with the entire community and actively seeking partnerships for program opportunities.

I am impressed with the SJCC's facilities and recognize that, as a 10-year-old facility, we need to invest in maintaining and enhancing this wonderful communal jewel. We will strive to provide strong and sensitive leadership through our volunteers and professionals. My main goal is to take an already wonderful centre and, with the help of all in the community, make it even more wonderful. Together we will accomplish good things.

I look forward to meeting all in my new community. I will never be too busy to schmooze about the ways in which the SJCC can be a focal point for Jewish life in Ottawa. This is a phenomenal opportunity and responsibility that I embrace as your new president/COO. I thank you for the opportunity and wish you all the very best of health and prosperity for the New

Curbing the pandemic of unethical behaviour

While the world eerily watches the H1N1 pandemic developing across continents, we are living the fallout of another type of disease that threatens to engulf us. Unethical behaviour in the international Jewish community has sickened all honest and moral members of our community.

We have been subjected to cases involving crooked meat distributors, money launderers in rabbinic garb and unbelievable Ponzi schemes impoverishing many people and destroying many hopes and dreams. We have also seen, once again, hooligans dressed in Chasidic uniforms wantonly destroying property all purportedly in the name of religion that bears no resemblance of any type to Judaism. In other words, it has been a lousy year for the Jewish people when it comes to ethical propriety.

Thankfully, religious and civil leaders of Jewish communities have universally condemned these crimes and have called for a rededication to Jewish values and ethics as enunciated in our Torah. The Chilul Hashem (desecration of God's name) committed by the individuals cited in the above episodes serve as a clarion call to all Jewish people to review a section of Talmud toward the end of Massechet Yoma that speaks to these modem day situations of white collar crimes that taint our reputation as the Chosen People.

The Gemara asks for a definition of the concept of Chilul Hashem. Interestingly, it indicates that if a rabbi uses his position in order to curry special favours, he is desecrating God's name. The title of 'rabbi'



From the pulpit

Howard Finkelstein Beit Tikvah

does not entitle him to any special privileges that are denied the ordinary individual. By the same token, if he violates his position by failing to obey Halacha, he continues to commit a Chilul Hashem

Finally, the Gemara relates that a rabbi who acts unethically and does not properly relate to individuals brings shame on the Torah. Rabbi Shmuel Strasbin, the Rashash, comments that the Chilul Hashem committed here is far more egregious than the other examples cited above, for people will blame the Torah for this person's actions. Ironically, he will not be considered at fault, but his Torah study will be cited as the reason for this person's malfeasances.

Educationally, today, Jewish schools have the opportunity and obligation to teach our students that the ethics of our faith bave zero tolerance for the type of behaviour we have seen exhibited this past year by unethical people who claim to be associated with the Orthodox Jewish community. From Pirkei Avot to Mesillat Yesharim, we have enough examples of classical texts that touch on the necessity to lead ethical and moral lives. It goes without saying that our Torah and Talmud are replete with examples and

statements referring to the obligations for all Jews to do that which is right and proper.

It is unfortunate that an important element in Jewish education Musar Jewish ethical inculcation, has been dropped by many schools. Perhaps it is unpopular to learn that which hits so close to bome, but our failure to emphasize moral education has come back to haunt us in the Jewish community.

As we mark Yom Kippur, we are reminded that the prayers of Al Chet primarily deal with our errors of commission and omission in our dealings with our fellow

buman beings. Yom Kippur does not atone for sins against other people. Yom Kippur is an appropriate time for all Jews to reconnect with God through our examination of our relations with others. Let the unfortunate cases we bave witnessed this past year that have violated our ethical principles stand as examples we shall not follow. A Jewish community that has lost its proper perspective on unethical acts committed by its members must undergo an in-depth Din Vecheshbon (accounting),

May God save us from all future scandals.



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The tiff over Tel Aviv at the Toronto International Film Festival

This column was written just as the 34th annual Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), scheduled for September 10 to 19, was getting underway. One of the world's premiere film festivals, TIFF introduced a new series this year, City to City, with a goal of showcasing and celebrating a vital filmmaking scene in a different international city each year.

Given its success as a filmmaking centre, its vibrant and diverse cosmopolitan nature, and the fact that it is now celebrating its centennial year, Tel Aviv was chosen to be the first locale to fall under TIFF's City to City spotlight and 10 movies made in Tel Aviv were scheduled to be shown during the festival. Reading their descriptions, they all sound interesting. I hope that I get to see them sometime.

Of course, when it comes to anything to do with Israel in a public forum, there just has to be some sort of invented controversy.

On August 27, John Greyson, a well-known director of gay-themed films and a professor of film studies at York University in Toronto, wrote to the TIFF program directors to announce he was withdrawing his documentary short, Covered, from the festival in protest over the choice of Tel Aviv for TIFF's City to City spotlight.



Editor

Michael Regenstreif

In his letter, Greyson quoted author Naomi Klein describing Tel Aviv as "a kind of alter-Gaza, the smiling face of Israeli apartheid" and said that celebrating Tel Aviv in 2009 was "akin to celebrating Montgomery buses in 1963, California grapes in 1969, Chilean wines in 1973, Nestlés infant formula in 1984, or South African fruit in 1991."

Greyson demanded to know why all of the Tel Aviv films were made by Israeli lews

"Why are there no voices from the refugee camps and Gaza (or Toronto for that matter), where Tel Aviv's displaced Palestinians now live?" he asked.

By now, you too may be scratching your head wondering how Greyson knows about Palestinian refugees displaced from Tel Aviv who now live in Gaza and Toronto when Tel Aviv was built on what were empty sand dunes a century ago.

Greyson is a leader of Queers Against

Israeli Apartheid (QAIA), and Covered, the film he pulled from the festival, is about homophobic violence aimed at a gay film festival in Sarajevo.

The whole concept of "queers against Israeli apartheid" strikes me as very strange considering that Israel is the only country in the Middle East in which GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual) persons can live openly and freely out of the closet, while Israel is almost certainly the only country in the Middle East in which Greyson could show a film like Covered. There are no gay film festivals in Hamas' Gaza. But there are in Tel Aviv.

Ironically, one of the Tel Aviv films that Greyson is protesting is *The Bubble*, a 2006 movie in Hebrew and Arabic about a gay love relationship between an Israeli Jew and a Palestinian Arab.

Greyson and an ad hoc committee of likeminded anti-Israel activists, including Naomi Klein, who emerged as their spokesperson in the Globe and Mail and on her blog, published a document called Toronto Declaration: No Celebration of Occupation denouncing the TIFF spotlight on Tel Aviv — as if Tel Aviv was under occupation — in which they essentially repeat the same accusations in Greyson's letter withdrawing his film.

Last issue in this space, I talked about how attempts to suppress the offensive Israel Apartheid Week poster or the keeping of the offensive, fringe British MP George Galloway out of Canada resulted in the exposure of the poster and Galloway to many times more people than there would otherwise have been.

Writing this column just before the film festival's opening night, I'll predict that all of the publicity generated by Greyson, Klein and company will only have served to assure full houses of moviegoers for the 10 films from Tel Aviv

This issue of the *Bulletin* was already printed when actor, filmmaker and children's author Henry Winkler – best known for playing 'Fonzie' for a decade on the sit-com *Happy Days* – landed in Ottawa to help launch the Annual Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa on September 15 at Centrepointe Theatre.

Winkler was also scheduled to do a book reading that morning for Grade 4, 5 and 6 students at Hillel Academy. The Bulletin will report on the Campaign Kickoff and Winkler's visit to Hillel Academy in our next issue

Election Year? No ... Groundhog Day

The beloved 1993 movie *Groundhog Day*, starring Bill Murray, frequently appears on critics' lists as one of the greatest film comedies of all time.

It teils the tale of an egotistical TV weather forecaster who journeys to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania to cover the annual Groundhog Day ceremony – an assignment he approaches with smug superiority – only to get stuck in a time warp, waking up every morning to find himself experiencing Groundhog Day over and over again.

Almost as soon as it was first released, the movie became so popular and influential that the phrase "Groundhog Day" entered popular consciousness as shorthand for a disagreeable experience that one seems to live through repeatedly.

tt's not very well known, but the original screenplay for *Groundhog Day* had a Canadian theme and a notably different plot than that of the eventual film classic.

The first draft of the movie – tentatively titled *Election Year* – had Bill Murray playing an Ottawa MP, rather than a Pittsburgh meteorologist. The opening scene takes place immediately after the votes have been all counted at the end of an autumn federal election.

The incumbent government of the day has just won a narrow minority mandate, and the film opens with the prime minister



· lan Echenberg

giving a rousing speech to supporters at his party's election night headquarters. He declares that the Canadian people have spoken and that, although it did not win amajority, his party will govern for all citzens by working co-operatively with all the opposition parties to provide effective leadership through difficult times.

Unlike the eventual film, this early draft had a time frame of an entire year, rather than a single day. Through the deft use of cinematic montage, we see the year unfold briskly through the eyes of Bill Murray's egotistical main character.

Shortly after the election, Parliament resumes and the government and opposition parties pay lip service to – and make dramatic shows of – trying to work together for the good of the nation. But almost as soon as they make their pledges, we see them beginning to engage in petty battles in the House of Commons, in name-calling through the media, and in secret plotting in caucus rooms.

Over the winter and into the spring, the government party releases negative ads attacking the opposition. The other parties reply in turn. Opposition leaders begin playing games of brinkmanship, threatening to bring down the government over every piece of legislation it introduces and then pulling back when the government makes some sort of cosmetic change to its plans.

As the year unfolds, politicians of all stripes seem less and less focused on the challenges of steering the ship of state and increasingly distracted by the possibilities, pitfalls and opportunities of the government falling. The polls, meanwhile, barely move at all.

Summer brings no respite from politics, as election rhetoric continues to boil, back room organizers continue to scheme and media continue to ponder how much longer this minority Parliament can last.

At the first turning point of the original screenplay, the Bill Murray character wakes up to find himself in the middle of the same fall election as in the beginning of the film, with the same result – another narrow minority government. The prime minister gives the same victory speech and the cycle continues anew, with the year again unfolding exactly as it had the first time around.

No matter what Bill Murray the MP

does, he can't stop reliving the same year repeatedly. It always begins and ends with an election that brings a minority government to power.

After the screenwriters completed this first draft of the film, movie producers said the script needed much work. They liked the whole time warp idea, and the cynical main character who can't escape his circumstances.

But a Canadian government that keeps getting elected as a minority, lasting a little while, collapsing, then getting elected again as a minority, with the same inconclusive election happening repeatedly at regular intervals?

"Come on," one of the producers said.
"Sure this film is a comic fantasy, but the premise has to be more believable than that! I know! Make the Bill Murray character a meteorologist who relives Groundhog Day over and over again."

And so a classic film comedy was bom. And the whole endless-minoritygovernment-cycle idea was dumped where it belonged: onto the scrap heap of improbably bad fictional ideas.

Years later, the whole idea was revived. This time in real life.

Where's Bill Murray when you need him?

Alan Echenberg is TVOntario's Parliamentary bureau chief.



Champion of the Child:

Janust Korctak **EXHIBITION**

October 30 - November 22, 2009 Irving Greenberg Theatre Centre on 1233 Wellington St. • www.gctc.ca Admission is free.

A moving exhibition in words and pictures tells the inspiring story of Dr. Janusz Korczak (1879 - 1942), a hero of the Warsaw ghetto. Korczak, a Polish-Jewish physician, author and educator devoted his life to the rights and well-being of children, regardless of nationality or religion.

The exhibition shows how his teachings on the treatment of children continue to resonate around the world today and charts his efforts to protect children from the horrors of the Warsaw ghetto before his death in Treblinka concentration camp.

Drawings by internationally renowned Israeli artist Itzhak Belfer, one of the children saved by Korczak.

Champian of the Child: Janusz Karczak creoted by the Jewish Museum of London, UK With thanks to the Gluzman family for their commitment and support of the Korczak project, in tribute to Leon Gluzmon



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JNF 2009 Negev Dinner honouring Sara Vered to take place at Chateau Laurier in March

On behalf of JNF Ottawa, I want to wish everyone a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. May 5770 be a year of peace in Israel and the entire world.

Our plans for the Negev Dinner to honour Sara Vered are moving forward rapidly and I am pleased to announce the details, which are different than in previous years.

Our venue witt be the Chateau Laurier and this will be the first time that a Negev Dinner has been held in that splendid setting. And our usual fall date is replaced this year by a spring date. The Dinner will take place on March 22, 2010.

All of our fundraising activities, which are under the very able chairmanship of Arnie Vered, along with the ticket sales, will take place, as usual, during the fall. Since the Chateau Laurier has limited seating capacity, and the room will probably fill up very quickly, please purchase your tickets early.

The evening will, once again, feature a fascinating speaker. JNF Ottawa is looking forward to very successful fundraising for Sara's projects in Israel (more on that later) and we are expecting another self-out crowd for the Negev Dinner this year.

JNF is very proud to be honouring Sara Vered. She, along with her late husband, Zeev z"l, and her children, have supported and encouraged many efforts and campaigns in both the Jewish community and the community-at-large, touching the worlds of

medicine, arts and education.

The organizations, institutions and campaigns they have contributed their time and efforts to are too numerous to list in their entirety here, but include the United Jewish Appeal, the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, the Ottawa Health Research Institute, the University of Ottawa Eye Institute, the University of Ottawa's Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program, and the Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Pro-

Please join us in honouring this extraordinary indi-

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On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (613.798.2411).



jnet: a new grassroots movement for grad students and young professionals

Announcing jnet! We're a unique grassroots movement of Jewish graduate students and young professionals in our 20s and 30s who have formed a non-profit social network to connect likeminded Ottawa Jews of our generation and bridge the growing gap between affiliated and non-affiliated individuals in our community.

While different groups and networks in the city have reached out to our demographic, our aim is bring all of them together and reach out to the many unaffiliated young people in the community in a more strategic and cohesive

Using a co-operative approach, we are committed to creating an open and welcoming venue where people who might otherwise never meet will have a fresh opportunity to come together and forge new friendships in a unique and interactive atmosphere. We plan to refresh, redefine and rejuvenate Jewish social life in Ottawa by thinking outside the box to create unique social experiences that are fun and engaging. By hamessing our networks and increasing the social value of our events.

we hope to dispel the myth that you already know every Jew your age. We're not about pushing specific religious, philosophical or esoteric agendas and we have a zero tolerance policy for boring speeches during our events! jnet will connect Jews regardless of religious affiliation, creed, values and denominations and with an array of activities and events

jnet is a grassroots initiative. We are a pluralistic and passionate group of volunteers representing different Jewish groups and individuals coming from many different backgrounds including govemment, corporate business, finance, medicine, law, the gay community and far beyond, inet has no biases because planning and teadership is cultivated within by peers with focus on community.

This approach is unique because we seek to reach out to various community sources in order to better centralize our networks. Alongside our mission to provide a fun atmosphere to foster improved social networking, we are also developing leaders and engaging new members who seek new challenges.

jnet is funded by the gener-

ous support of local Jewish our official launch party. To organizations and sponsors and operates according to our guiding principles. We are a movement that inspires Jewish individuals and groups to connect through strategically co-ordinated events in a professional and welcoming atmosphere.

Our belief is that less is more. By providing fewer, but high quality, diverse events filled with energy, surprises and new people, all Jewish professionals and grad students can easily explore and establish meaningful connections with the people they meet at our events

jnet is excited to announce

meet, mingle and share fresh experiences with hundreds of new Jewish faces in their 20s and 30s in an open and friendly atmosphere, we invite you to join our group. Be a part of change. Be a part of the inet movement on Thursday October 1 at the Clarendon, 15 George Street. Doors open at 8:00 pm and special advance tickets are available at Rideau Bakery locations.

For more information, or if you'd like to be more involved with inet as an individual or as an organization, visit inetlaunch.com or contact us at info@inetlaunch.com or 613-868-8072





Israeli stamp designed by Ottawa graphic artist Irving Osterer celebrates second World Jewish Ice Hockey Championships in Metulla

Israel's fledgling ice hockey industry got a promotional boost recently thanks to a graphic artist from Ottawa's Jewish community who designed a postage stamp - and limited edition envelope - that pays tribute to the sport in that

teaching graphic arts for 30 years and currently teaches at Merivale High School. He designed the stamp to celebrate the second World Jewish Ice Hockey Championships played in July at the Canada Centre in Metulla, Israel's northernmost town, near the Lebanese border.

"My purpose in the Irving Osterer has been whole thing is just to promote Israel's hockey efforts," explained Osterer, an amateur stamp collector. "I've always been interest-

The stamp features a photo of defenceman Ron Soreanu, also from Ottawa and a veteran on Israel's national hockey team.

Support from Ottawa's Arnon Corporation was instrumental in making the project possible. Arnon president Arnie Vered's son, Michael, and nephew, Elie Vered, played for Team Canada White, the Gold medal-winning team in this vear's under-18 competi-

"I have nothing but good things to say about the Vereds. Not just for what they did for me, but what they do for the Ottawa community," said Osterer. "They're really terrific people, they didn't even flinch when I asked for help. And when the other backing I needed fell through, they didn't ask any questions."

Support for the project also came from another unexpected source: Custom Printers of Renfrew, Ontario, a small town about 100 km northwest of Ottawa. According to Osterer, general manager Kerry Thompson was happy to assist by printing the commemorative envelopes with



Irving Osterer

the stamp for free.

"I asked them for a favour. He just said yes," explained Osterer. "It was a \$500 job."

In the end, the Israeli post office had very little to

"I am an art teacher." said Osterer, "so I was able to figure out what would look right in terms of the background colours. I also got the exact dimensions of the stamps. So, with all that information, I designed the

stamp perfectly. No one had to do it for me. I think they [at the Israeli post office] were quite amused because they did not have to do anything. What I sent them was

The front of the envelope Osterer designed includes logos of the hockey tournament, the Israel Ice Hockey Federation, the town of Metulla and the Canada Centre. The back of the envelope includes information about the tournament and the stamp itself.

The envelope and stamp set is available from the Israel Ice Hockey Federation, 2 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 2000, Toronto, ON, M4V 1L5.

The envelope and stamp set can be viewed online at tinvurl.com/hockevstamp. A limited number of the envelopes on sale have been autographed by Ron Soreanu. All proceeds go toward supporting hockey programs in Israel.

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Telling the 'Jewish story' motivates Brandon Marlon

By Benita Baker

Two passions inspire Ottawa-born playwright and poet Brandon Marlon - his' love of storytelling and his love of Israel

The 29-year-old, who holds a BA in drama from the University of Toronto, is the author of two books of poetry and eight plays, most with a Judaic or Israeli theme.

"Jews are a storytelling people," said Marlon, "I am adding my stories to the chain of stories that links our rich heritage."

Raised in an Orthodox home by parents Aaron and Shelley Sama, Marlon developed his love of story at an early age.

"There is so much story in Orthodox Judaism," said Marlon. "I fell in love with the power of story and how it has the ability to inform, educate and affect people."

An interest in drama

School of Speech and Drama, Ottawa Little Theatre camps, drama classes at Brookfield High School and, ultimately, an academic specialty. Add to that a life-changing university graduation trip to Israel, and the creative mix was com-

"Everything about Israel inspires me: the history, geography, landscape, architecture, archeology," he said. "You can hardly go anywhere without encountering the richness of Israeli life, culture and civiliza-

His first collection of poetry, Inspirations of Israel, was self-published in 2008 and subsequently acquired by Canadian publisher Bayeux Arts, reworked, renamed Judean Dreams and re-released in spring 2009.

Although none of his plays have been in full production, they have received tawa. The Bleeding Season, his play about the Second Intifada, won the 2007 Canadian Jewish Playwriting Competition. Not all scripts have Judaic themes: Obscene is about homelessness in Toronto: Nightlife is about a handicapped artist.

Marlon, who legally changed his name when he was 19, made what he calls "flexible aliyah" in 2007. Now, with his dual citizenship, he can live wherever opportunities exist for him, either in Israel or Canada.

worked in Jerusalem as a theatre consultant. He discovered that a gap exists in the city's theatre community - there is no professional non-profit English theatre. So, he did the research and developed a business plan that would create one.

The plan requires the buy-in of the local and national governments as well

Hamilton, Montreal and Ot- the deep pockets of visionary philanthropists. Unfortunately, although the feedback has been good, the financial support has not vet become available. Undaunted, Marlon has circulated the plan to prospective donors in Toronto.

When asked when he decided that writing was his desired vocation rather than just a bobby, he replied, "When I realized that I couldn't be a goalie for the Edmonton Oilers."

But this is the same person who cites the Torah as While in Israel, Marlon one of his favourite books.

> "The Torah is the original epic novel," said Marlon. "It has everything: love, sex, betrayal, war and a cast of fascinating, as well as flawed, characters."

Clearly, he was meant to make his mark on the cultural world, not in sports.

Now back in Ottawa, Marlon is working on his first novel, a story set in an-

Ottawa poet and playwright Brandon Marlon is writing a novel about the rise and fall of the Babylonian Empire.

cient Babylon about the rise and fall of the Babylonian Empire. It focuses on how the values of the society. dominated by hedonism, materialism and paganism, are changed with the influx of Jewish captives.

Marlon expects to shop the novel to potential publishers when it is finished. His goal is to complete it before his 30th birthday in October

And then what? Will he stay here or go back to Israel? Will his next project be a play, a book or another collection of poetry? What will be the subject?

"The stories choose me," said Marlon. "I just want to tell the Jewish story to the greater world.'



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Casting call: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Tamir

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, one of the most popular musical theatre shows ever. will be presented by Tamir on May 12 and 13 at Centrepointe Theatre as part of our 25th anniversary celebration.

What will make this production particularly special is that it will include a cast featuring some of the most talented entertainers in Ot-

tawa performing with Tamir Daniel Benlolo and the pro- Benjamin and Judah who residents in a show that will demonstrate the marvellous possibilities that come from the inclusion of such a diverse group of people in the community.

Tamir is the organization meeting the need for community living in a Jewish environment for adults with developmental disabilities in the Ottawa area.

The show will be directed by Barry Karp. The musical director is Cantor

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ducers are Robert Gould. Morris Neuman and Marty

Roles that will be auditioned for include: Jacob, the father of the 12 sons: Joseph, the youngest of Jacob's sons; and the 11 other sons, Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Napthali, Isaacher, Asher, Dan, Zebulun, Gad,

sing and dance their way through many situations and places, and also double as Egyptians in many cases.

We're also looking for multi-talented women to appear in the play as many characters - Jacob's wives. Mrs. Potiphar, saloon girls, dancing girls, etc. - and multi-talented men to play

such characters as Potiphar, Baker, Butler, Pharaoh, etc. and for men and women to play the Ishmaelites, the people of the desert who act as the show's chorus.

There are also many opportunities for volunteers interested in helping with a wide range of backstage activities.

Auditions for Joseph and

the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6 and 7, from 6:00 to 9:30 pm, at the Soloway Jewish Community

Anyone interested in auditioning for a role, or in volunteering backstage, should contact me at 613-725-3519, ext 113.

Shiru Lach Choir begins its second year

By Ellen Asherman for Shiru Lach Choir

Shiru Lach, Ottawa's largest Jewish community choir was created in 2008 by merging Shira Ottawa and Zemer Lach. The choir director is Ellen Asherman and Aviva Lightstone is the accompanist.

Shiru Lach's debut season was a great success, and everyone is excited and ready to get going again. Following an open house on

September 8, the regular rehearsal schedule will start on Tuesday, September 22

Shiru Lach will meet in the Teen Lounge at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) every Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. An exciting new repertoire, which includes songs in Hebrew, Yiddish, French and English, has been selected for the 2009-2010 season. Most are arranged in three- or four-part harmony.

There is always room for more singers in all sections, especially tenors and basses. The ability to read or speak Hebrew is not essential. Nor do you need to be able to read music.

If you love to sing with others, in harmony, you are welcome to sing with Shiru Lach.

For information, or to register, contact Roslyn Wollock, SJCC adult program manager, at 613-798-9818, ext.

Casting call: Megillah on the Roof

By Roslyn Wollock Adult Program Manager

Soloway JCC A Megillah on the roof? Sounds

But in our bustling Soloway JCC preparations are well underway for the third annual Purim Shpiel, Megillah

This year's production will be directed by Bronwyn Steinberg, who holds a master of fine arts in directing for the theatre. Aviva Lightstone returns as the show's musical director.

The casting call has gone out, If you're a dormant thespian, someone

who loves to sing songs from Fiddler on the Roof, or someone who has always dreamed of a starring role as Tevve, Golda or Yente, then have we got a match for you!

Call me at 613-798-9818 ext. 254 for information or to book an audition. Rehearsals begin on November 1.

Rebbetzin Sara Kaplan visits JYL

By Diane Koven

crazy, no?

for Jewish Youth Library Even those who are fortunate enough to be bappily married can pick up a few tips for staying that way. It isn't magic and it doesn't always come easily, but it's definitely a goal worth striving for and working towards

So it was that more than 60 people filled the Jewish Youth Library (JYL), July 8, to hear Rebbetzin Sara Kaplan discuss 'Making a

Good Marriage even Better' when she stopped in Ottawa during a North American speaking tour.

Kaplan is based in Safed, Israel, her home for many years since she and her late husband, Rabbi Lieble Kaplan, were chosen by the Lubavitcher Rebbe to serve as emissaries to the Galilee She has been a teacher and mentor to hundreds, if not thousands, of women and girls throughout the world. according to Devora Caytak

of the Jewish Youth Library. Abby Rabinowitz was one of Kaplan's students more than 20 years ago.

"She was an amazing teacher," said Rabinowitz. "I think I went into teaching because of her. Her knowledge is incredible and she is really fun, inspirational to many people and brilliant."

Jenny Roberge attended the talk and was very impressed. She and her hushand first became involved with Chabad while posted in Hong Kong with the Canadian diplomatic corps.

"What she brought into this lecture was the Chasidic perspective of mar-riage," said Roberge, who found it very interesting. "Her advice was simple and timeless: talk, discuss and share. Bottling feelings inside is a sure recipe for grief, anger and failure.'

Dina Schneider also en-

joyed Kaplan's lecture, especially her skills as a storyteller.

"She connected Old World stories to her own modern experiences as a rebbetzin when counselling and teaching at her seminary," said Schneider.

"Rebbetzin Kaplan's main point was open, honest communication. She suggested using the compliment sandwich, a praise or positive point which leads into the point you really want to address and then more praise. She emphasized standing up for yourself and your ideas without offending or hurting others by using her method.

The Jewish Youth Library, located at 192 Switzer Avenue in Ottawa, offers a variety of programs for all ages.

Visit jylofottawa.org for further information.

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Archives photography exhibit



Young Canada Works summer student Emily Dingwall stands in front of a new exhibit. Celebrating 100 Years of Photography (1880-1980), on display at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre outside the Greenberg Families Library until November. Emily researched and prepared the exhibit as part of her summer work at the Ottawa Jewish Archives. Several examples of early photographic formats can be viewed in the exhibit.

(OJB Photo: Michael Regenstreif)

Tamir Neshama Choir visits seniors centre in Montreal

By Adele Horwitz Tamir Judaica program co-ordinator

After a lot of planning and excitement, the Tamir Neshama Choir arrived in Montreal this summer on a rainy day.

But the inclement weather couldn't dampen the spirits of the choir members as they set out to entertain the folks gathered at the Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors.

The Tamir Choir has been entertaining audiences all over Ottawa and in many major cities throughout Canada and the United States for some years, but this recent adventure in Montreal was our first excursion since the membership mushroomed to 18 from eight last year.

Our first stop was on Mount Royal where we enjoyed a picnic lunch in the pavilion before dressing and preparing for the per-



Members of the Tamir Neshama Choir gathered in front of the Segal Centre for the Performing Arts during their visit to Montreal to perform at the nearby Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors.

the Cummings Centre. With musical accompaniment by The choir was warmly Aviva Lightstone, and un-

received by the seniors at der the skilled direction of Cantor Daniel Benlolo, the entire room lit up with en-

Several individuals from the choir as well as some of the audience had moments · to shine at the microphone, leaving everyone feeling they were an integral part of a shared and uplifting

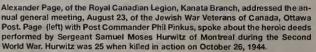
In contrast to the energy and excitement that had been channelled into the jubilant singing, the return trip on the highway from Montreal was tranquil.

In the sky, there was a full panoramic view of the most incredible majestic sight. Exquisite cloud formations illuminated by the sctting sun glowed with awesome beauty, and our exhausted passengers gazed at the clouds in complete fascination. A sign perhaps of a lofty seal of approval for a day well spent by kindred spirits uniting neshamas (souls) and bringing iov to those we visited.

The choir will be performing in the production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Centrepointe Theatre as part of Tamir's 25th anniversary celebration in May.

For information, contact Tamir at 613-725-3519.

Jewish War Veterans present awards to students at AGM



Five high school graduates received awards from the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Ottawa Post, to help further their post-secondary education. (Below, left to right) Shalom Benzaquen, who is spending a year in Israel before starting at the University of Ottawa; Ethan Calof, now at the University of King's College in Halifax; Joshua Levitan, now at Queen's University in Kingston; Ilana Hadad, now at Carleton University; and Alexa Wall, also now at Carleton. (Photos: Elly Bollegraaf)





Grover in Israel: new friends and falafel

Throughout the series the pair remains in Israel - a device that lets children see various landscapes, meet Israeli children and even learn a little Hebrew

There are episodes on the Jewish holidays, mitzvah themes such as loving animals and treating others kindly, animation segments and interviews. The Chanukah episode will feature a visit with a family whose menorah has remained in the family for generations. The Rosh Hashanah episode opens with a discussion about new beginnings as the audience sees an Israeli girl start her first day at school and her hrother learn how to blow a shofar

In an exclusive interview with JTA, Grover discussed why he was excited ahout the project.

"My home is Sesame Street, hut I iove meeting people from all over the world, and one of those places is Israel, where I have been able to make new friends and learn," he said in his trademark high-pitched tone. "I have learned a few words in Hehrew, like toda (thank you) and boker tov (good morning), and that pretty much gets me hy.'

Eric Jacobson, the puppeteer who assumed the voice and actions of



Grover mulls his selections at Jerusalem's open-air market, Shouk Machane Yehuda, with the help of an Israeli girl during the filming of Shalom Sesame in Jerusalem on August 28, 2009.

Grover ahout 10 years ago after the legendary Frank Oz retired, said Grover seems to connect with audiences young and old hoth in Israel and around the world.

"Let's start with that Grover is hlue," Jacohson said during a hreak

from filming. "No one I know is hlue, and therefore he can he anybody

Three other puppets join Grover in the cast, including a floppy-haired Arah Israeli named Mahhouh.

human character, an archeologist who is religiously observant and wears a kinah. Often he is the one to explain some of the Jewish rituals

and Bible stories. "I think it's important to protect

this is a tool for helping to do that," Sorek said

The Sesame Workshop has coproductions with some 18 countries, including an Israeli version called Rehov Sumsum and a Palestinian version called Shara'a Simsim.

Shalom Sesame is the first series intended to reach out specifically to a North American Diaspora audience, but similar programs are planned for children of Arah Americans and of Indian Americans hased on Sesame Street-style programs in Egypt and India.

During a scene shot last week from the final episodes of Shalom Sesame, at a farewell party for Grover and van der Pol, a wistful van der Pol looks around at her new friends and says, "I can't believe my Israel adventure is over. It's heen the most amazing experience of my life - the friends, the fun."

"The falafel!" pipes in Grover, prompting a round of laughs.

Shoshana, who plays an Israeli family friend of van der Pol's character, turns to her and says, "You will always have a home here. You are our mishpocha now, part of our family.

The director calls out, "OK Shahar Sorek plays another and present our Jewish heritage, and everyone, get a little mushy now."



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Fred Stenzler, beloved father and grandfather by Elayne Adler and Farley, Jordan and Benjamin Stenzler

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Tamara and Gavriel Searowsky Mazal toy and best wishes on the birth of your son by Elayne Adler and Farley, Jordan and Benjamin Stenzler

Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge Fund

In Memory of:

Matilda Feuerstein by Carolyn and Sid

The Dear Aunt of Anne Huss by Carolyn and Sid Katz

Betty Rosenberg by Carolyn and Sid Katz Ethel Taylor by Eileen, Ann and Stan Goldberg

Boris and Dolly Blacher Family Fund In Memory of:

Beloved mother of Vivian Stiassny by Maria Blacher

Ruth Weinberg by the Blacher family

Friedberg and Dale Families Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Schachter by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

In Honour of:

Kathi Kovaes and Irwin Schweitzer Mazal tov on Leah's engagement by Elaine Friedberg, Bob and Jonathan Dale

Rissella and Avi Weiss Mazal tov on the birth of your son by Elaine Friedberg and Bob

Malcolm and Vera Glube Family Fund In Honour of:

Sandra and Jacie Levenson Wishing you a happy and bealthy 50th wedding anniversary and all the best for a Shana Tova by Vera and Malcolm Glube

Mareia Strauss Happy 70th birthday, wishing you many more happy and healthy years by Vera and Malcolm Glube

Nell Gluck Memorial Fund

Geri and Joe Miller Mazal tov on Michael's engagement to Stacy by Maureen and Henry Molot

Issie and Leah Searowsky Mazal toy and best wishes on the birth of your grandson by Maureen and Henry Molot

Moe Greenberg and Elissa Greenberg Iny Family Fund

In Memory of:

Beloved Father of Celia Atkins by Elissa and Avraham Inv

Gunner Family Fund

In Honour of:

Toba Gunner Mazal tov on the birth of your great grandson by Estelle and Sol Gunner

Flo and Joel Morgan Mazal toy on the Bar Mitzvah of your grandson Sam by Estelle and Sol Gunner

Francine and Rob Roll Mazal toy on the birth of your grandson by Estelle and Sol Gunner

Devorab and Harold Stocker Mazal toy and best wishes on the birth of your twin grandchildren by Estelle and Sol Gunner

Levenson-Polowin Feeding Fund

Chuck Polowin Best wishes for a very happy special birthday with love by Heidi and Sieve Polowin

Ida and Sidney Lithwick Family Fund In Memory of:

Sidney Lithwick by Marilyn Lithwick-

Rosenthal Family Endowment Fund In Memory of:

Erie Bahar by Helen Rosenthal

Irma and Harold Sachs Family Fund In Memory of:

Edith "Buddy" Kizell by Irma and Harold

Betty Rosenberg by Irma and Harold Sachs

Stephen and Debra Schneiderman Family Fund

In Honour of: Rabbi Reuven and Leah Bulka Mazal tov and best wishes on the upcoming marriage of Rachel and Sariel by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

Harold and Lillian Shoihet Memorial Fund

In Honour of:

Andrew Fainer Much appreciation for your thoughtfulness and kindness, Yasher Koach by Dovid Shoihet

Label and Leona Silver Family Fund In Memnry of:

Ethel Taylor by Millie Schaenfield and

In Honour of:

Sylvia and Sol Kaiman Mazal tov and best wishes on the marriage of your grandson Adam to Juline by Millie Schaenfield and family

Sarah and Arnie Swedler

Family Fund

In Memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Sarah and Arnie Swedler Betty Rosenberg by Sarah and Arnie Swedler

Edith Teitelbaum and Eddie Zinman

Memorial Fund

In Memory of: Sarah Ann Stewart by Fuzzy and Max Teitelhaum

In Honour of:

Joan Bloom Mazal toy on the marriage of your daughter by Fuzzy and Max Teitelbaum

Ruth and Hy Calof Mazal tov on your 50th wedding anniversary by Fúzzy and Max Teitelbaum.

Sara Vered Wishing you a very happy birthday by Fuzzy and Max Teitelbaum

Anna and Samuel Wex Family Fund

Fuzzy and Max Teitelbaum Mazal tov and our very best wishes on the birth of your granddaughter by Anna and Sam Wex R'fuah Shlema:

Irving Aaron (Montreal) by Anna and Sam Wex

Feeding Program

In Memory of:

Edith "Buddy" Kizell by Carol and Larry

In Commemoration of the Yahrzeit of:

Phil Levenson, her beloved father, and Michael Levenson, her beloved brother, Heidi Polowin has made a very generous donation to this program

Betty Polowin, his beloved mother, Steve Polowin has made a very generous donation to this program

Sheila Conper All our love on your very special birthday by Carol and Larry Gradus

Gerry Levitz Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family by Paula and Manny Agulnik

Betty and Ed Rose Mazal tov on Spencer and Katie's marriage, may you have lots of nachas by Dee and Yale Gaffen

Lisa and Harold Sandell Mazal toy on the birth of your granddaughter Shaindel by Mara and Isaac Muzikansky

****** IN MEMORY OF:

Mary Abel by Allan Letourneau; Marlene Da Costa: JoAnne Armstrong: and Marlene Bears

Matilda Feuerstein by Gloria and Morris Dadoun The Dear Aunt of Anne Huss by Annette

Millston The Dear Aunt of Irving Huss by Annette

Buddy Kizell by Susan and Jonathan

Fisher; and Annette Millstone Irene Kronick by Zahava and Barry Farber Betty Rosenberg by The Settlement and

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Ethel Taylor by Arlene and Gary Bonn; and Zahava and Barry Farber

IN HONOUR OF:

Mr. and Mrs. David Abbey Sorry I was not able to celebrate your anniversary with you. All my best wishes to both of you for a continued happy life together by Harry Weitz Daniel Blacher Mazal toy and best wishes

on your Bar Mitzvah by Dora and Sam Litwack Tal Gilboa and Rob Steiner Mazal toy on

your marriage by Zahava and Barry Farber Annie and Irwin Hinberg Mazal tov and best wishes on the birth of your grandson by Issie and Leah Scarowsky

Issie and Leah Searowsky Mazal toy on the new addition to your family by Esty Bybelezer

Buddy Steinherg (Independent Linen) Sincere appreciation and thanks for all your help and kindness by The Jewish War Veterans

Devorah and Harold Stocker Mazal tov on becoming grandparents of twins by Zahava and

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'My kids know the reason I leave once a week after dinner'

A new Jewish year is upon us, and my 5770 promises to be especially sweet; for this is the year that I am reigniting some long dormant dreams – hoop dreams, to be exact.

My hoop dreams reappeared quite suddenly. Last June, I attended a presentation by one of the senior associates from the JCC Association in New York. As I listened to him outline best practices for the running of a Jewish Community Centre (JCC), I silently wondered what led this man to a lifetime of JCC service. He wasn't especially tall, but he boasted the tell-tale trimness and movements of an athlete. I quickly concluded that it must have been the celebrated pastime of sports that brought this man to embrace the JCC life. I wasn't sure which sport was his true love, but my mind quickly ran to the recent Jewish men's basketball league tournament at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC), the winning team boasting players spanning decades, including a father and son duo.

The next day, I phoned the SICC athletic co-ordinator and a women's basketball clinic was born; experimentally over the summer, and resuming weekly after the High Holidays. It turned out our co-ordinator had a dream coach at the ready for would-be players like me who wanted to get game.

"Skills, drills and scrimmage: no experience required," I hastily scribbled in an e-mail to almost every woman I knew in Ottawa. It seems that many of my friends and associates possessed the same latent court desires as me and we are now a proud club of enthusiastic, mostly 30-somethings spoiling for a three-pointer.

While I have long used the many excellent fitness facili-

ties at the SICC, organized sports had mostly eluded me since I was a kid. In elementary school, I spent passionate lunch hours playing intramural floor hockey. Evenings before games saw me poring over team lineups on smudged foolscap with a greasy pencil. Saturday afternoons brought all sorts of sports at the Winnipeg YMHA and on Sundays my dad would frequently take me to the Y for one-on-one basketball.

But, by high school, my extracurricular activities ran more to music and drama, student council and synagogue youth groups. This left little time left for indoor team sports – particularly during the crucial fall and winter seasons. In spring, I sometimes played tennis and soccer, but with less passion than I maintained for athletics during my younger years.

There's something about sports that's simply different from the fitness regime of a StairMaster or a treadmill. While I depend on those facilities to keep fit — and certainly appreciate them and the excellent fitness staff at the SICC who help keep me entertained and motivated, what I realized I had been missing was the very visceral and childlike feeling of running with a bouncing ball. My kids get to do things like that almost every day between preschool activities and recess and Purim carnivals. But I, even though I didn't consciously realize it until it suddenly dawned on me, was missing out.

JCCs and YMHAs have a long history of sport, of course. In 1980, celebrated Winnipeg Jewish sportsman Leible Hershfield published a book on Jewish athletes in Westem Canada. I recall spending hours looking at the distant black and white photographs, being fascinated by a glimpse of a great-



Values, Ethics, Community

Mira Sucharov

uncle here, a distant family friend there. And I cherished one picture of the grandfather I never knew, posing with the YMHA gym team.

Once on the court, I wasn't surprised by the rush I got from refreshing my dribbling, practising my passing and finally learning a proper layup (helped no doubt by the two feet I'd grown since I'd last played). But my stationary shots are far superior to my game-play ones, I admit to finding blocking rather disconcerting, and the first session saw me freeze play to belp an opponent up off the ground with a frantic, "Are you OK?" I guess I need to sharpen my focus, toughen my resolve and thicken my skin. All in good time, I hope.

I don't know if I'll ever be like one of my favourite columnists, law professor and New Yark Times blogger Stanley Fish, who carries a basketball in his car trunk, and who recently devoted his precious Times online space to waxing eloquent about the game.

But I do get a kick out of the fact that my kids know the reason I leave once a week after dinner is to play basketball. And perhaps when my co-players are good and practised, we'll pose for a team plioto with our beloved coach. Maybe my grandchildren will pore over that picture, amazed by the youthful gleam in their grandmother's eye as she recaptured moments of being 10 years old running, bouncing, throwing, passing and occasionally scoring.

Irish-Jewish collaboration makes for one of best albums of the year

Susan McKeawn & Lorin Sklamberg Saints & Tzadiks Warld Village warldvillagemusic.cam

Last issue in this space, I wrote about superb collaboration between trumpeter Frank London and singer Lorin



Sklamberg – both of the Klezmatics – on Tsuker-zis, an album of Chasidic religious songs. Here is another superb collaboration of Sklamberg's, this time with the sublime Irish Celtic singer Susan McKeown.

This is not the first time the pair has worked together. Several years ago, when the Klezmatics recorded Wander Wheel, their Grammy Award-winning settings of Woody Guthrie's Jewish-themed songs, McKeown sang duets with Sklamberg on several songs that called for a woman's voice.

On Saints & Tzadiks, Sklamberg and McKeown take Jewish folksongs in Yiddish and Irish folksongs in Gaelic or English and mix them together, seamlessly singing in the language of their own and each other's cultural beritage, occasionally mixing the languages into the same song – all to sturning results on each of the dozen selections. The CD booklet, by the way, places English translations next to the Yiddish and Gaelic lyrics so that not understanding either language is no hindrance to enjoying the album.

Some of these songs, like "My Little Belly," a hypochondriac's litany of woes sung in Yiddish, the bilingual Yiddish-English version of "The Rattlin' Bog," or "The Hag with the Money," sung in Gaelic, are a lot of fun. Other's, like "Buenos Aires," about Jewish girls from Warsaw being sold into white slavery during the First World War, or "The Dark Slender Boy," sung by Sklamberg in English and McKcown

in Gaelic, are beautiful and poignant.

The album's masterpiece is a song called "Prayer for the Dead," which weaves together verses from "Johnny I Hardly Knew Ye" with a Yiddish lament for dead soldiers dating from the First World War, and a dirge dating from a millennium ago that is partly in Latin and partly in Irish Gaelic, forming a universal prayer for all who have been lost to war and for a world without such killing and dying.

Saints and Tzadiks is one of the finest albums of the year.

Greg Wall's Later Praphets Ha'Orat Tzadik gregwall.com

Half a century ago, beat-era writers like Alan Ginsberg and Jack Kerouac were staging events at which they'd be accompanied in their readings by musicians like David Amram. Listening to Ha'Orot by Greg Wall's Later Prophets, I was reminded of some of the recordings made in those days by Amram and friends. But, instead of beat poets like Ginsberg, this recording sets the words of Rabbi Avraham Itzchak HaCohen Kook – Rav Kook, the first chief rabbi of Palestine in the 1920s and '30s – to the music of an avant-garde jazz group headed by Rabbi Greg Wall, a saxophonist and composer who's long been a leader in the new lewish music movement.

Rabbi Wall's collaborators in the Later Prophets include pianist Shai Bachar, bassist Dave Richards and drummer Aaron Alexander. They're joined by Rabbi Itzchak Marmorstein reading Rav Kook's words. Rabbi Marmorstein's recitations, some in English, some in Hebrew, blend, sometimes seamlessly, sometimes in a cacophony of sound, with the Later Prophets' musical settings.

In addition to the words-and-music settings, there are two bebop instrumentals, "Nigun Ha'rav #1" and "Nigun



Music

Michael Regenstreif

Ha'rav #2," which are based on melodies composed by Rav Kook himself.

This is not a CD to put on as background music. The appreciation of these pieces demands the complete attention of listeners willing to give themselves over to the experience of the words and the sometimes-difficult music.

Jaffa Road Sun Place Jaffa Road jaffaroadmusic.com

Sun Place is the debut album by Jaffa Road, a dynamic world music ensemble from Toronto, fronted by singer Aviva Chemick, whose songs are based on both ancient and modern poetry in Hebrew, Ladino and English. The album begins auspiciously with "L.Y.G.," an infectious melody whose Hebrew lyrics come from the book of Isaiah and whose English lyrics are based on the African American spiritual, "Study War No More," also inspired by a passage from Isaiah.

Other highlights on this always-engaging CD include "Betzet Yisrael," a setting of "Psalm 114," and "Una Ora en la Ventana," a Ladino folksong about two lovers waiting to be alone, both of which have shimmering flamenco-influenced arrangements.

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October 14, 21, 28 and November 4 • Wednesday • 1:30 pm

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Tickets available at the Soloway JCC Front Desk 613.798.9818 ext 295

For more information please contact Estelle Backman / Jack Schecter • 613.798.9818 ext. 245 • library@.jccottawa.com

Peace Between the Children of Abraham: Interfaith Dialogue between a rabbi and a judge of Shari'a law

RABB

Dr. Ron Kronish

is the founder and Director of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel. He has graduated Brandeis University, Hebrew Union College and Harvard University.

& KAD

Mohamad Sibdeh

is a distinguished judge at the Shari'a Court in Jerusalem. He is a leading member of KEDEM, Voices for Religious Reconciliation.

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For more information please contact Temple Israel at 613.224.1802 or Ruthie Prince-Raz at 613.798.9818 ext. 243

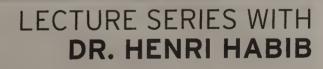
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Where are we in the Middle East Today?

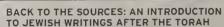
An analysis of the recent events and developments of the Spring and Summer of 2009 and their impact on the dynamics of the Middle East political process



TUESDAYS • OCTOBER 6, OCTOBER 13 AND OCTOBER 20 7:30 PM • SOLOWAY JCC

Series Lectures: \$15M / \$18NM · Individual Lectures: \$7M / \$9NM Tickets available at the Soloway JCC Front Desk · 613.798.9818 ext.295 For more information please contact Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock at 613,798,9818 ext. 254 or rwollock@jccottawa.com • www.jccottawa.com

MORE Soloway JCC A



The Torah is like DNA for the Jewish people. It is our spiritual code. How is our social body - Jewish society created from this framework? Classes begin on Thursday, Thursday, October 1st • 11am - 12pm Instructor; Rabbi Charles Popky • \$120M / \$150NM

RED HOT BALLROOM - LEVEL 1 & 2

Dance instructor Yvonne MacLeod teaches you how to dance the Fox Trot, Waltz, Swing, Meringue, Cha Cha, Samba and Rumba. Classes begin Thursday, September 24th from 7-Bpm.

\$130 M couple / \$160 NM couple \$65 M single / \$BD NM single

INTERMEDIATE RED HOT BALLROOM

Thursday, September 24th, from 8:05pm - 9:05pm. \$13D M couple / \$160 NM couple \$65 M single / \$80 NM single

TALLIT WEAVING

Do you have a simcha fast approaching for your child or grandchild? There is one medium loom left for the Tallit weaving program which begins on Wednesday evening, September 23rd.

NEW! BLUES HARMONICA (BLUES HARP)

During this B-week beginner session, blues harmonica instructor Marc Seguin, will ease you into playing the harmonica with the basics. Required: a Diatonic (ID hole) harmonica in the key of C in the \$20 -\$40 price range. Classes begin Tuesday, September 29th. \$BDM/\$95NM



SOLOWAY JCC SHIRU LACH CHOIR

We welcome anyone who loves to sing from the soul to join our newly expanded choir and enjoy the opportunity to combine voice and heart while learning a new repertoire of Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino and Broadway tunes. With the aid of a coach, the choir will also spend time working on vocal quality and group sound. Choir meets each Tuesday evening from 7-9pm beginning September 22nd and runs through May, 2010. \$165 for Members and Non Members.

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Alan Dershowitz takes on challenging and controversial figures on the 92nd Street Y stage! Dershowitz is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. His recent books include Rights from Wrong, The Case For Israel and The Case For Peace.

After listening to each debate, the audiences will determine whether Oershowitz or his opponent made a more convincing argument. Live audience members will be able to cast their votes by text message!

ALAN OERSHOWITZ VS. OENNIS PRAGER:
THE LEFT, THE RIGHT AND JUDAISM IN AMERICA
LES GELB, MODERATOR
THURSOAY, OCTOBER 8 • 8:00 PM • SJCC NEW DATE!

Two of the most provocative voices on issues surrounding Judaism and the Middle East conflict come together for a can't-miss event. Listen as they debate Zionism, democracy, torture, social justice, the current administration and other pressing issues.

MORE Soloway JCC A

ALAN OERSHOWITZ VS. JEREMY BEN-AMI:
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND ISRAEL
ELLIOT SPITZER, MODERATOR
SATUROAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 8:00 PM • SOLOWAY JCC

As the United States continues to support an embattled Israel while simultaneously establishing good relations with pro-Western Arab countries, American Jews, Israeli Jews and American politicians are wrestling with how to effectively approach Israeli security and peacemaking. Supply arms and aid to Israel without condition? Encourage more radical evacuation of settlements and a diplomatic approach to a two-state soluction? The hawkish Dershowitz and the head of J Street, the new "liberal" Israel lobby, each make their case.

Tickets available at the Front Desk of the Soloway JCC Members: \$10 one debate / \$15 two debates Non-Members: \$1S one debate / \$20 two debates

> For more information please contact Gustavo Rymberg at 613.798.9818 ext. 271 or grymberg/ccottawa.com • www.jccottawa.com

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A legendary Israeli spy, caught in a life he couldn't leave behind. Torn between two worlds, two families, two countries.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2 • 7:30 PM • SOLOWAY JCC Members \$5 / Non Members \$8 • Tickets available at the Soloway JCC Front Desk



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Sunday, November 22, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Get all your Chanukah shopping done in one stop. If you are Interested In being a vendor at the Chanukah Glft Fair please contact Ruthie at 613-798-9818 ext. 243.

Waldman's candour raises questions of emotional costs

Bad Mother: A Chronicle of Maternal Crimes, Minor Calamities, and Occasional Moments of Grace By Ayelet Waldman Doubleday 2009 Hardcover, 224 pages

Ayelet Waldman is worried she's a bad mother. The 40-something American author and her husband, Michael Chabon (*The Yiddish Policemen's Union*), are the American Jewish literary couple du jour. In May, they performed together at a White House literary event.

Having previously written about the work-life balance, and other related matters, in the *Bulletin*. I was keen to get Waldman's take on motherhood. There is a lot to be said for this book, which travels well-trodden territory, but with a distinctly 2009 voice. But I find I like the book better than its narrator – in so far as one can know a person from her prose. And hence it's admittedly hard for me to *love* this book.

The book's theme draws on a 2005 essay that Waldman published in the *New York Times*. In the book, she discusses being "held up to scom and ridicule as an example of maternal perfidy" from that column.

I dutifully found the essay online. I swallowed it swiftly, and almost immediately felt a sense of nausea swelling in my core, while tears stung my cheeks. I'm no personal judge and jury (at least not publicly; well, at least not most of the time), but Waldman's essay was so shocking in its candour and in its implied ontology that I physically convulsed.

In the essay, Waldman confesses, "I love my husband more than I love my children." And then, "If I were to lose one of my children, God forbid, even if I lost all my children, God forbid, I would still have him, my husband. But my imagination simply fails me when I try to picture a future beyond my husband's death. Of course I would have to live. I have four children, a mortgage, work to do. But I can imagine no joy without my husband."

I don't typically quote from an author's earlier work when assessing her or his current offering. But so offended was I by the dichotomous way she quantifies her love for various members of her family, it all but east her later musings into dark shadow for me. (How she has intellectual and emotional access to such certitude is beyond me; not to mention the potential harm wrought to her children when they read the article.

And they will – it landed her on *Oprah*, after all.)
But, back to the book.

For the most part, Waldman manages to tackle many complex and sensitive issues surrounding motherhood with wit, humour and intelligence. And challenges she has had. She suddenly quit work as a Harvard Law-educated attorney toiling at her self-described dream job to stay home with her kids before becoming a writer. She has one son with ADHD and another who almost starved to death as a newbom. She chose to abort a pregnancy due to possible chromosomal complications, and she, herself, struggles with bipolar disorder.

Through all this, she tells us repeatedly how fantastic is her marriage and how fabulous is her sex life (hence the original New York Times essay describing ber abundant romantic passion for her husband, untamished even after four kids). I'm no prude, and I don't want to sound jealous (I love my husband too), but isn't waxing poetic about one's sex life — in a book geared at other mothers in the thick of it all — tantamount to flashing one's Rolex in a bingo hall?

Still, Waldman's take on motherhood will ring true for many: the challenges of balancing one's private and public lives, the yearning for "just one more tiny mouthful of a foot,"

Book Review

Mira Sucharov

societal pressure surrounding breastfeeding, rolling the chromosomal dice, raising sexually healthy teenagers, obsession with giftedness, fear of passing along one's mental imbalances and, ultimately, cultivating a sense of mindfulness.

I admire Waldman for her honesty and candour. In fact, my biggest challenge in navigating friendships is probably eliciting the kind of emotional intimacy — 'sbaring,' in the language of the day — from my friends that feeds my soul. And she certainly admits her share of mistakes and vulnerabilities. But, ultimately, I find myself asking at what emotional cost (to her children from her declarations of love hierarchies) and at what social cost (to readers put off by declarations of perfectly erotic marital bliss) is this book.

l enjoyed reading Waldman's book and there was much to chew on. Her categorization of sexy-witch-versus-cereal-box-12-year-old-girls on Halloween was particularly clever. But I'll take Globe and Mail columnist Judith Timson's more modest and nuanced book, Family Matters, published in 1996, over Bad Mother any day.

Tempting fate and inviting disaster

Have your ever tempted fate by standing at the edge of a balcony on the 20th floor of an apartment building, leaning out over the railing? You were just leaning your midriff against the railing with feet still firmly planted on the cement. There was no chance in hell anything would happen – unless someone pushed you, or the railing gave way, or the balcony cement floor started to dissolve. All rather unlikely scenarios, especially if the only other person there was someone who loves you.

Still, there was that little sbiver and the rush of a breeze blowing across your face as if you were actually flying.

Sometimes, however, we do carry things too far. Like the teenager who does a handstand on the very railing you leaned on. This is inviting disaster.

I recently invited disaster while riding first class from Ottawa to Toronto on the train. I didn't know it when I bought the ticket, but travelling in first class meant I was served a meal with a choice of appetizer, one of three main courses, dessert and any drink my heart desired.

I was sitting next to a rather frail woman of 75-plus years with white hair, wearing a white blouse, white capri pants and white flat shoes. She had a gold bracelet and several rings. She wore thick reading glasses, was completely hard of hearing and carried a cane.

I smiled at her and she asked me if I was going to Toronto.

"I'm going to Union Station," I said.

"Unionville?" she asked.

"No, UNION STATION!"
"I'm going to Guildwood,"
she said and smiled again.

"Good," I said.

"No, GUILDWOOD!"

I smiled, nodded and started reading my book in earnest.

The attendant came by and asked what we would like to drink. The lady next to me asked for ginger ale. I paused



Humour me, please

RubinFriedman

and looked at the cart and something caught my eye.

'What's that?" I asked.

"That's Clamato."

Without even a second's thought, I said, "I'll have one of those."

Let's see: Clamato and white capri pants. You probably know the rest of the story.

At some point, after drinking about three-quarters of my Clamato, I had to reach with my right arm across my tray and down my left side to retrieve another book. Of course, the inevitable happened and glass tipped over, spilling its contents onto my neighbour's tray. Like a pool of blood in a horror movie, it spread slowly across her tray and I could see it would eventually spill over right onto her lap.

I used my napkin frantically. The attendant came and ran off to get towels. The red pool spread inexorably. I panicked, not knowing what to do.

I turned to my neighbour yelling "SPREAD YOUR LEGS!"
The woman behind me stood up in indignation and spilled her own drink. The elderly lady smiled and said, "Yes it is very red," just as a drop fell on the cuff of her pants.

Just then the attendant came and we threw the towels on the little red lake and sopped it up before anything else happened. The person behind me sat down a little abashed as she had seen what the problem was.

The attendant then went off and came back with some seltzer to rub on the pants.

"I'm so sorry," I said to the lady.

"Oh that's OK, "she answered, hearing me very well this time. "You didn't do it on purpose. Besides, you gave me a good chuckle."

"Maybe not on purpose," I thought, "but I was sure inviting isaster"



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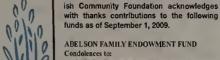
BRIAN LEVITAN, Certified Senior Advisor WENDY BIRKHAN, Social Worker



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Ruth Dunlop on the passing of Mac by Tracey

Kronick and Al Abelson.

The Board of Directors of the Ottawa Jew-

MARJORIE AND BEN ACHBAR COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Marjorie and Ben Achbar.

ANNETTE ALBERT ENDOWMENT FUND In memory of:

Allan Pancer by Annette Albert.

IRVING AND BETTY ALTMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Betty Altman and family by Helen and Joe

ANNE AND LOUIS ARRON MEMORIAL FUND

David Loeb by Daphoe and Stanley Arron. Thioking of you:

Joan Levine by Dapbne and Stanley Arron.

Edith Kizell by Daphne and Stanley Arron.

MYRNA AND NORMAN BARWIN FOUNDATION OF THE PINCHAS ZUKERMAN MUSICAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Congratulations to:

Norman Barwin on receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws from Carleton University by Estelle and Sol Mazel Toy to:

John Holzman on Ellen's marriage by Norm and

Jackie Holzman on Ellen's marriage by Norm and Myrna Barwin

François and Ron Vexler on Daniel's marriage by Norm and Myrna Barwin. Liz and Allan Schwartz on the recent marriage of

their children by Norm and Myrna Barwin. Erica and Graham Sher on Caleb's Bar Mitzvah by

Norm and Myrna Barwin. Stan Farber and Mariana Herskovitch on Eadan and Gedaliah's Bar Mitzvah by Norm and Myrna Barwin.

Anniversary wishes to: Ruthie and Hy Calof by Norm and Myrna Barwin. Jacie and Sandra Levinson by Norm and Myrna

Larry and Sheila Hartman by Norm and Myrna

CVNTHIA AND DAVID BLUMENTHAL ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation to:

Hanna and Paul Faynwachs by Yanda and Mark

HY AND RUTH CALOF ENDOWMENT FUND

Ruth and Hy Calof oo their 50th anniversary by Joel and Gaye Taller, by Lilyan Philipp; by Roz and Myles Taller; by Amold and Faye Tennenhouse; by Amon and Ruth Miller; by Joan Bloom; by Sara Vered; by Marion Silver, Alan, Lawrence, Rafi and Shira Brass; by Evelyn Greenberg; by Marvin and Phylis Silverman; by Solange and Harvey Smith; by Vera and George Gara; by Sharon and Herb Gray, by Pearl and David Moskovic; by Truda Rosenberg; by Carole and Wally Cherun, by Mark Walker, by Penny Bar-Noy Roodman; by Tova Calof, by Heather Blumenthal, Otto Ehren and Rebecca; by Barbara Siegel; by Gordon and Shirley Parks; by Barbara Darling; and by Elisabeth and Herbert Holmes.

ARTHUR AND LINDA COGAN FUND FOR YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP Birthday wishes to:

Sol Shinder by Archie and Linda Cogan.

In memory of: Ethel Taylor by Archie and Linda Cogan. Barbara Mirsky by Archie and Linda Cogan. Jerald Yanover by Archie and Linda Cogan.

Thinking of you: Sarah Swedler by Archie and Linda Cogan The Levitz family by Archie and Linda Cogan.

Anniversary wishes to: Jeffrey and Rhoda Miller by Archie and Linda

Marty and Ellie Black on the marriage of Andrea by Archie and Linda Cogan.

Mendy Taller on the marriage of Jason to Nina by Archie and Linda Cogan

SANDLAND EDDY COOK ENDOWMENT FUND

Speedy recovery to:

Hans Koeck by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family. Birthday wishes to:

Avraham Iny by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family. Peter Szirtes by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family.

Buddy Kizell by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family: and by Jessica, Mark and Jack Borenstein. Bess Narod by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family.

NATHAN AND REBA DIENER ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Nathan Diener, a beloved husband, father and grandfather by Reba Diener and family.

Aoniversary wishes to: Bernie and Donna Dolansky by Howie Smolkin and Annice Kronick.

JOSEPH AND JEAN DOVER ENDOWMENT FUND

Buddy Kizell by Gerry, Madeleine and Mavis

MORRIE AND HELEN EISEN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Edith Kizell by Helen Eisen.

JOSEPH AND ESTHER EISENSTADT MEMORIAL FUND

Io memory of:

Fem Eisenstadt by Joan Sacksner.

Sid Lebow by Joan Sacksner, by Jeffrey, Lynn and Jaki Sacksner, by Joelle and Martin Sacksner, and by Shelley Sacksner-Eisenstein, Sbulie and Penina.

Suzanne Kert-Cohen by Joan Sacksner.

Coogratulations to:

Estelle Gunner on receiving an award by Joan

Ingrid Levitz on receiving an award by Joan Sacksner.

Jennifer, Cally and Sid Kardash on receiving an award by Joan Sacksner

CYNTHIA AND ABE ENGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Buddy Kizell by Cynthia Engel.

ENDOWMENT FUND New Year wisbes to:

Barbara and Len Farber by Hersbell Ezrin.

Continued on page 24

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AJA S0+ ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Barbara Mirsky by Norman and Elaine Wolfish.

MENDEL AND VALERIE GOOD HOLOCAUST CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND

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Buddy Kizell by Felicia and Mark Saslove. Sonia Rothenberg by Betty and Irwin Itzkovitch.

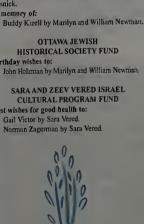
OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Martha and Mark Tishman oo Lee's engagement to Gillian by Mark, Cindi, Daniel, Ben and Lauren

HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUND

Best wishes for good health to: Gail Victor by Sara Vered Norman Zagerman by Sara Vered.





Barbara Mirsky by Sara Vered. Buddy Kizell by Sara Vered. Bess Narod by Sara Vered.

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ALFRED AND KAYSA FRIEDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Congratulations to:

Shirley Greenberg on receiving the Order of Canada by Alfred and Kaysa Friedman.

FRAN AND SID GERSHBERG FAMILY FUND

Birthday wishes to:

Paula Bennett by Fran and Sid Gershberg.

GILBOA/MAOZ FAMILY FUND Mazel Toy to:

Tal Gilboa on her marriage to Rob Steiner by Felicia and Mark Saslove; by Rob Glube; and by Steven

Anniversary wishes to:

Sandra and Jacie Levinson on their 50th wedding anniversary by Chaim and Helen Gilboa

GEORGE AND MARY GOLDBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Mary Goldberg by Jane and Robert Erskine.

EVA DIANE AND JACK GOLDESELD MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to: Ruth Levine by the Landis family.

JACK AND GERT GOLDSTEIN

MEMORIAL FUND Birthday wishes to Dorothy Hymes by Diane and Allen Abramson.

HERB AND DENA GOSEWICH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Jerry Yanover by Herb and Dena Gosewich Buddy Kizell by Herb and Dena Gosewich. Sheila Finestone by Herb and Dena Gosewich.

Jacie and Sandra Levinson on their 50th wedding anniversary by Herb and Dena Gosewich.

R'firsh Sh'lemah to: Sarah Swedler by Herb and Dena Gosewich.

ZELDA AND JOHN GREENBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Zelda Greenberg by Margot Greenberg. Buddy Kizell by Margot Greenberg.

LARRY AND SHEILA HARTMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Edith Kizell by Larry and Sheila Hartman.

COLIN HUGHES MEMORIAL FUND Birthday wishes to:

Alice Zeisler by Dawn and Anna Brawley; and by Elizabeth Jameson Anniversary wishes to:

Hy and Ruth Calof by Leib, Bettina, Forrest, Royce, Alyssa Zeisler.

DOROTHY AND HY HYMES ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Important Notice

to all Fund Advisors of the

Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

If you would like to make changes

in the allocations from your endowment fund

for the 2009 disbursements.

the request needs to be forwarded

to the Foundation office in writing and received by October 31st.

Changes received verbally will not be accepted

as an official change.

Buddy Kizell by Dorothy and Hy Hymes. Bess Narod by Dorothy and Hy Hymes. Anniversary wishes to:

Sandra and Jacie Levinson by Dorothy and Hy

LIBBY AND STAN KATZ FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Buddy Kizell by Libby and Stan Katz.

Anniversary wishes to: Rose and Morrie Konick by Libby and Stan SVD. ETHEL, LINDA AND STEVEN KERZNER AND FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation to:

Linda and Steven Kerzner by Kayla Resnick.

ARTHUR AND SARAH KIMMEL

MEMORIAL FUND Anniversary wishes to:

Roz and Amie Kimmel on their 40th anniversary by Barb and Lenny Farber.

JACOB AND ESTHER KIZELL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Cynthia Flesher.

KOVOD ENDOWMENT FUND

New Year wishes to: Leah and Rabbi Reuven Bulka by Hershell Ezrin.

SUSAN AND DAVID KRIGER ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Kenneth Ain, a beloved father by Susan and David

RIVA AND ABRAHAM KROLL MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to:

Ellen Lithwick by Yvonne and Harvey Lithwick and

ANNICE AND SYDNEY KRONICK FAMILY FUND

In memory of:

Irene Kronick by Barbara Sugarman and Sydney

Ethel Taylor by Barbara Sugarman and Sydney Kronick.

SAMUEL AND IRENE KRONICK ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Irene Krooick by Nomi, Harold, Zachery and Rasi Calton-Max; and by Joshua Max.

ISSIE AND EDITH LANDAU

ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yabrzeit of: Issie Landau, a beloved husband by Edith Landau.

Mazel Toy to:

Joyce Field on receiving the life time achievement award from JewishGen by Edie Landau; and by Jerrold and Tippy Landau and family.

Nelly Engel by Edie Landau.

HARRY AND ZENA LEIKIN ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of:

Barbara Mirsky by Barb and Lenny Farber.

NORMAN AND ISABEL LESH

ENDOWMENT FUND In appreclation to:

Norman and Isabel Lesh by Marilyn, Daniel, Linda

and Warren Kimmel. Birthday wishes to:

Phyllis Newman by Norman and Isabel Lesh.

SANDRA AND JACIE LEVINSON

ENDOWMENT FUND

Anniversary wishes to:

Sandra and Jacie Levinson on their 50th wedding anniversary by Evelyn Greenberg; and by Roslyn and

RHODA AND JOE LEVITAN AND FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Toy to

Joe and Rhoda Levitan on the engagement of Shayna to Elliott Lavi by Helen and Rick Zipes.

SALLY AND ELLIOTT LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of:

Bess Narod by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

Birthday wishes to:

Norman Zagerman by Sally and Ellictt Levitan.

ERNEST AND IDA LEVITZ MEMORIAL FUND

Thinking of you: Gerry Levitz by Ron Jande; by Natalie Evans; by Leslie Milton and by Alan Freed and Sharon Rosentzveig; by Claude and Claudette Gingras; by Edie Landau; by Anne, Steve and Lindsay Van Delst; and by

JOHN AND ESTELLE LIBERMAN

ENDOWMENT FUND

Happy New Year to:

Sally and Elliott Levitan by John and Estelle Liberman.

JOSEPH AND EVELYN LIEFF ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Joan Bloom on Debbie and Brian's marriage by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff.

Sally and Elliott Levitan on their granddaughter,

Shayna's, engagement by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff. Rhoda and Joe Levitan on their daughter, Shayna's, engagement by Evelyn and Joseph Lieff.

Continued on page 25

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FOUNDATION DONATIONS ~



Birthday wisbes to:

Ruth Milne by Elissa Lieff, David, and Zac Resnick

In memory of: Bessie Narod by Ruth and Manny Shacter, by Joan

Bloom; by Clair Krantzberg; by Simmy Gardner; and by Al and Shirley Cohen.

MURRAY AND MARY MACY ENDOWMENT FUND Anniversary wishes to:

Jacie and Sandra Levinson by Murray and Mary

SAMUELAND LEEMA MAGIDSON ENDOWMENT FUND Birthday wishes to:

Sylvia Magidson by Roz and Amie Kimmel and family; and by Leema Magidson and family.

JACOB MALOMET MEMORIAL FUND

Anniversary wishes to: Hy and Ruth Calof on their 50th wedding anniversary by Al and Diana Malomet. Birthday wishes to:

Sara Vered by Al and Diana Malomet.

RHODA AND JEFFREY MILLER FAMILY FUND

In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller and family.

HAROLD AND YETTA PEARL MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to: John Holzman by Herb and Susan Pcarl. In memory of:

Barbara Mirsky by Herb and Susan Pearl.

JACK AND MIRIAM PLEET ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Bess Narod by Jack and Miriam Pleet. Birthday wishes to:

Dapbne Arron by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

BESSIE AND BENJAMIN POLOWIN MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to: Chuck Polowin by Freda and Manny Grill.

SHELLEY AND SID ROTHMAN FAMILY FUND Mazel Toy to:

Rhoda and Joe Levitan on the engagement of their daughter Shayna to Elliot Lavi by Shelley, Stuart, Nina, PJ and Marshall Rothman.

Anniversary wishes to: Ellie and Martin Black on their 30th wedding anniversary by Shelley Rothman

RICKIE AND MARTIN SASLOVE FAMILY FUND

Birthday wishes to: Phyllis Newman by Rickie and Marty Saslove

HAROLD SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Beatrice Zagon, a dear sister by Sheldon and Sonia

LORNE AND LAURIE SHUSTERMAN FAMILY FUND

Birthday wishes to:

Sara Vered by Lorne, Laurie, Zak and Ben

In memory of:

Joseph Bolarinho by Laurie Shusterman.

IRV AND ELAINE SINGER ENDOWMENT FUND Anniversary wishes to:

Ray and Susan Stancer by Iry and Elaine Singer.

Dr. Irving and Florence Rother by Irv and Elaine

LINDA SILVERMAN MEMORIAL FUND In memory of:

Edith Kizell by Marvin and Phylis Silverman. Bess Narod by Marvin and Phylis Silverman.

JAY B. TALLER MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to: Morton Taller by Joyce and Milton Taller; by Stan and Libby Katz, by Enid and Jeff Gould and family; and by Rhoda and Jeff Simbrow, Abbey, Nick and Zack

CHARLES AND RAE TAVEL MEMORIAL FUND In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Lilyan Philipp; by Ellen and Stan Magidson; by Sunny and John Tavel.

Barbara Mirsky by Lilyan Philipp; by Sunny and

BRENT AND RISA TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Justin Altman by Brent and Risa Taylor.

IRVING AND ETHEL TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Ethel Taylor by Bea Greenberg and family; by Dorothy & Hartley Stem and children; by Doreen and Sandy Keir; by Marilyn and William Newman; by Joyce and Seymour Bellman; by Audrey, Steven and Kyle Taylor; by Dundi and Lyon Sachs; by Al and Shirley Cohen; and by Ian Sadinsky and Joan Bercovitch and family.

BARBARA AND GERALD THAW ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Shirley Raboy by Barbara and Gerald Thaw.

LISE AND MARK THAW FAMILY FUND In memory of:

Shirley Raboy by Mark, Lise, Alayna and Bryan

ELIZABETH AND ARNON VERED FAMILY COMMUNITY FUND

Arnie Vered by Solly Patrontasch.

SUSAN, GILLIE AND ELIE VERED FAMILY FUND

In memory of: Barbara Mirsky by Susan, Gillie and Elie Vered.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Vahrzelt of:

Sarab Annel Schwartz, a beloved mother by Sandy

Rita Appel, a beloved aunt by Sandy Marchello. Razel Sheiman, a beloved great-aunt by Sandy Marchello

Joel Waserman by Sandy Marchello. Gail Victor by Sandy Marchello

MEMORIAL FUND

Anniversary wishes to:
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Viner by John and Gladys Greenberg.

Birthday wisbes to:

Melissa Greenberg Springer by Mom and Dad. Bruce Greenberg by Mom and Dad. Mitchell Ariel Greenberg by Zaida and Bubby

Daniella ES Springer by Zaida and Bubby

Greenberg Best wishes to:

Jacie Levinson for a good recovery by John and

Gladys Greenberg.
Millie Schaenfield for good health by John and Gitel Greenberg.

HAZE WAINBERG FAMILY FUND

Sadie Dladman by Haze Wainberg.

MICHAEL WALSH AND LISA ROSENKRANTZ ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation of:

Lisa Rosenkrantz by Jonathan and Vicki Wiseman.

WASERMAN FAMILY MEMORIAL FUND In observance of the Vahrzeit of:

Steve Waserman, a beloved brother and brother-inlaw by Nathan and Barbara Bregman.

Edna Waserman, a beloved mother and mother-inlaw by Nathan and Barbara Bregman.

HARRY AND RAE WEIDMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Harry and Rae Weidman, beloved parents and grandparents by Roslyn Taller and family.

MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Miriam and Lou Weiner.

MILDRED AND PERCY WEINSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of: Percy Weinstein, a beloved husband, father and grandfather by Millie Weinstein.

In memory of:

Buddy Kizell by Millie Weinstein.

Anniversary wishes to:
Jacie and Sandra Levinson on their 50th wedding anniversary by Millie Weinstein.

New Year wishes to:

Joan and Weldon Levine by Millie Weinstein.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Ethel Taylor by Debi and Neil Zaret.

ZIPES KARANOFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation to:

Helen and Rick Zipes by Felice and Jeffrey Pleet. In memory of:

Edith Kizell by Helen and Rick Zines.

Mazel Tov to: Marion Kirsh on receiving the FCA designation by Helen and Rick Zipes

PINCHAS ZUKERMAN

MUSICAL EDUCATION FUND

Anniversary wisbes to: Gary and Lynn Dubinsky by Marilyn and William

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB

B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

RVAN JEREMY BAKER B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Toy to:

Gabe Karlin and Andrea Rosen on Michael's enagement to Amy by Benita, Steven, Alexander and Rvan Baker

COREY KLEIN MITZVAH FUND

In appreciation to:

Penny Giaccone by Corey Klein. Jessica Cantor by Corey Klein.

Susan Weisman by Corey Klein. Birthday wishes to:

Roslyn Gershon by Jack, Wendy, Sarah, Danielle and Corey Klein.

Estelle and Ian Melzer by the Klein family.

LIFFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZAVAH FUND

Ethel Taylor by Francie and Norman Lieff and family Mazel Toy to:

Sarah Beutel and Steve Morgan on their son's Bar Mitzvah by Francie and Norman Lieff.

JARED ROTH MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Toy to:

Gedaliah and Eadan Farber on their B'nat Mitzvot by Jared Roth. Dayna Zunder on her Bat Mitzvah by Jared Roth.

Contributions may be made online at www.OJCF.ca or by contacting Carolene Preap at 613-798-4696 extension 232, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address

is donation@ojcf.ca. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an offi-

cial receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Amex.

In Appreciation

The family of the late Gordon Allen wishes to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our family, friends and associates for their sympathy, cards, notes and messages of condolences. Your support during this difficult time was deeply appreciated.

Lenora Allen and Family

SARAH

Would like to express her deep appreciation to so many friends and family - too many to mention - for their love and support during her recent illness. Your phone calls and cards were comforting and uplifting during this time.

Memories of Bubbe cookies

Every spring when I was little, my parents would fold down the last two rows of our station wagon and line it with blankets and pillows. Then they would wake my sisters and me at midnight and pack us into the back of the wagon like sardines (this was before the days of seatbelt laws). We drove through the night to Philadelphia to visit my dad's

We loved those annual trips to Philadelphia. My older sister and I got to stay at my Auntie BeBe and Uncle Sammy's house. We slept in my cousin Bonnie's room. She was three years older than me and the most glamorous preteen I knew. I loved her American accent, her clothes and her friends. I was very jealous of her pierced ears and adorable earring tree that housed all her beautiful earrings. The rest of my family stayed at a hotel. When my little sisters got older, they were allowed to stay at the house too, in my younger cousin David's room.

Our days had a definite structure to them. We'd get up in the morning and have Tastykakes for breakfast, followed by a chaser of Diet Pepsi. Tastykake has been baking in Philadelphia since 1914 and its signature product is a cream-filled cupcake, much like a Hostess Ho Ho. Then we'd set the dining room table for lunch.

At about 10:30 am, my parents and siblings would arrive and all the kids would go upstairs and start rehearsal for the play we'd put on that night. Our performance each night followed a fairly similar formula, some variation of dressing my little cousin David up in girl's clothes.

Morning rehearsal was followed by lunch, always cold cuts, coleslaw and potato salad, Wise's potato chips and, of course, the ubiquitous Pensi and Diet Pensi. My Uncle Sammy is a definite member of the Pepsi generation. No Coke in that house! I never made a sandwich with bread for

SANDLER PHOTOGRAPHY

to chips. Depending on your perspective, you may either be amazed or horrified that this is what I remember most vividly about that time in my childhood.

Lunch was followed by cleanup and setting the table for

The afternoon usually involved some shopping for the girls. Back in the day, my mom was a marathon shopper. What she could accomplish in two short hours was astonishing. (Fortunately, that gene has been passed down to several of her daughters and at least one granddaughter!)

Then, back to the house for dinner, clean up, setting the table for lunch the next day and the evening performance. For dessert there were always Bubbe cookies

My grandmother made poppy seed cookies. They are not thin delicate mun cookies like the Rideau Bakery makes. They are thick and hard, like little hockey pucks. During the rest of the year, she would mail them to us in a shoebox. When that little box would arrive in the mail, there was much joy in our house. (Perhaps that explains my shoe ad-

Saving goodbye at the end of the visit always took at least two hours. There were lots of tears and promises to visit again very soon.

As we grew older, the visits were less frequent and, once my cousins and siblings and I got married and had families of our own, our lives got increasingly busier.

In 1992, two years after my bubbe passed away, a family reunion was planned. We all drove to the Neville Hotel in the Catskills. It was a wonderful weekend. There was lots of talk that this should be an annual event, but all the busyness of life got in the way.

In early-2000, Roger and I decided to host a family reunion at our cottage that summer. Although it was a Feingold-Gordon (my dad and his sister) family reunion, several other branches of the family were included: my mom's sister, Susie, and her family, and my Cousin Bonnie's mother-in-law, Yetta. Over the years, whenever an additional guest was added, the joke became, "Yetta 'nother guest!"

That first reunion was a resounding success (despite E. coli in our well, but that's a story for another time). Of course, I had to bake Bubbe cookies for the reunion.

It had been 10 years since my grandmother died, but, luckily, my aunt had watched her mom make the cookies and copied down what she observed. When I read the directions, I thought there must have been a misprint. It said to bake the cookies for 70 minutes! But that's correct. The cookies are rolled out to about half-an-inch thick so they bake at a low temperature for a long time.

While we bave not been holding annual reunions since





Made with Love

Cindy Feingold

2000, we have managed to do them every three years. We held one in 2003, 2006, and again this year, in August. This summer, there were 41 of us.

Every reunion is better than the last. I feel proud that I am carrying on my parents' tradition of making memories for their children. Now it's our generation's turn to do the same for our kids.

Bubbe Cookies

These are not a thin delicate poppy seed cookie. They are thick and hard, much like a mini hockey puck. They are not too sweet and are perfect with a cup of tea. They are also fantastic for long driving trips as each cookie takes a long time to eat and they'll keep you alert while driving

Makes 125 cookies

- 6 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup warm water
- 2 tablespoons Crisco vegetable shortening
- 2 tablespoons poppy seeds
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 8 1/4 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 cun granulated sugar

(for sprinkling on top of cookies before baking)

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. In an electric mixer, mix together the eggs and sugar for about 5 minutes, until light and fluffy.

Add oil, water, Crisco and poppy seeds and continue to mix for another 3 minutes

Add baking powder, salt and flour and mix just until the dry ingredients are incorporated.

Divide dough into 4 sections. Roll out one section at a time, to a 1/2 inch thickness and cut out cookies using a 1-1/2-inch round cookie cutter. A small juice glass works very well for this. (That's what my Bubbe used, although, in her later years, she just used a knife and cut the cookies into squares.) Save the scraps and reroll and cut out more cockies.

Place the cookies on parchment-lined cookie sheets. The cookies can be placed fairly close together as they do not spread during baking. Sprinkle the cookies with sugar and bake. You can put two trays in the oven at once; just switch positions of the trays halfway through the baking time. The cookies will take about 60-70 minutes to bake. They should be golden brown and firm to

These cookies keep very well for several weeks in an airtight container and travel very well in a shoebox



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Picture books: one a little late for Rosh Hashanah, one just in time for Sukkot

The Secret Shofar of Barcelona By Jacqueline Dembar Greene Illustrated by Doug Chayka Kar-Ben Publishing 2009 32 pages. Ages 5-9.

What to do when an entertaining picture book about Rosh Hashanah arrives in my mailbox long past the deadline for the Rosh Hashanah edition of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin? That's the dilemma I faced in late-August when I received and read The Secret Shofar of Barcelona. Since I don't want to wait a year before reviewing it, here it is a little late, but worth it.

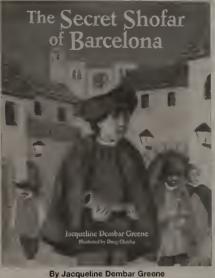
The Secret Shofar of Barcelona is set in Spain in the late 1500s, a time when the Spanish Inquisition was riding high. It is based on a Sephardic legend about a converso (a forced convert to Catholicism who secretly continues to practise Judaism), Don Fernando Aguilar of Barcelona. According to the legend, Don Fernando was a famous composer and conductor of the non-existent Royal Orchestra of Barcelona.

Using those few concepts, author Jacqueline Dembar Greene has written an inspiring Rosh Hashanah story about guile, courage and hiding traditions in plain sight. How can Don Fernando, his family and their trusted converso friends celebrate the upcoming Jewish New Year when even the housemaid is a spy for the Inquisition?

Don Fernando's solution is to persuade the orchestra's patron, the Duke of Barcelona, to hold a special concert in honour of the brave Spanish soldiers who had recently captured some colonies in the New World. And when should the concert be held? Erev Rosh Hashanah, of course. Why? Because Don Fernando and his wife can host a dinner party to celebrate the concert and, secretly, the New Year.

When Don Fernando's son, Rafael, learns that his father has written a new composition based on native instruments for the special concert, he suggests his father include the shofar. Knowing full well the dangers of his suggestion, Rafael offers to learn its notes and blow the shofar at the concert. With much trepidation, Don Fernando agrees. Both hope all the secret Jews of Barcelona will be enriched by hearing the shofar's tekia, shevarim, teruah and tekia gedolah. Do their plans

Written in a straightforward style with just the right market and buy a lulav and etrog for Sukkot? Better yet,



Illustrated by Doug Chayka

amount of suspense and danger, the book's full-colour illustrations enhance the suspense while clearly giving readers a sense of the time and place of the story. The Secret Shofar of Barcelona is an especially welcome addition to High Holiday Jewish kid lit because of its Sephardic origins and male heroes. In recent years, those latter elements have been getting harder to find in Jewish kid lit.

> Sukkot Treasure Hunt By Allison Ofanansky Photographs by Eliyahu Alpern Kar-Ben Publishing 2009 32 pages. Ages 3-8.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could go to a local farmer's



Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

what if we could hike in the hills and valleys close to the mystical city of Tsfat. Israel and find the four species ourselves. Next to building a sukkah, that would surely be the ultimate in Sukkot fun.

That is what Aravah and her parents decide to do. Taking a picnic lunch with them, Aravah, her ima (mother) and abba (father) go on their Sukkot Treasure Hunt. Their list is short: branches from a date palm tree, a willow tree, a myrtle tree, and an etrog. Do they find them? In what order and where? What else do they find?

That is the gist of Sukkot Treasure Hunt, a simple, loving, family story brought to life by the glorious pictures of nature and the family taken by photographer Eliyahu Alpern. I can't say readers will feel like they are in Israel, but they will certainly get a great idea of what the four species look like in the market stalls of Tsfat, growing in the wild, and when the lulav is bound together with the myrtle by the willow branches.

As a bonus, author Allison Ofanansky includes some interesting fun facts about the plants and animals mentioned in the book, and a note about Sukkot. A pleasant Sukkot read, indeed.

From my family to yours, Chag Sameach!



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AT'S GOING ON September 21 to October 4, 2009

Happy Sukkot from the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin!





CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE

Sep 25 \$ 6:38 pm **EREV YOM KIPPUR** Fast begins 6:51 pm **EREV SUKKOT**

Oct 2 \$ 6:25 pm First Day SUKKOT after Oct 3

2006

7:25 pm

WEEKLY EVENTS

Israeli Folkdancing, learn dances, have fun, no experience or partner necessary. Hillel Academy, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-722-9323.

WEDNESOAYS

Chill and Grill with Chabad, sponsored by the Chabad Student Network. Enjoy a delicious barbecue dinner, meet old friends and make new ones, 29 Gilmour Street, 6:00 pm. Info: 613-601-7701.

FRIOAYS

Student Shabbat Experience, sponsored by JET on Campus. Rabbi and Ayata Gross host Shabbat dinner and Saturday Shabbat lunch at their home, 15 Sandcliffe Terrace. Info: rabbigross@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

Wonderful Wednesdays, seniors lunch program sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Congrega-tion Machaiker Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 12:00 pm. Info: 613-521-9700.

> SUNDAY. SEPTEMBER 27

EREV YOM KIPPUR

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28 YOM KIPPUR. ends at 7:54 pm.

> FRIDAY OCTOBER 2 **EREV** SUKKOT

Chabad Student Network Sukkot Oinner, 29 Gilmour Street, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-601-7701.

SATUROAY OCTOBER 3 SUKKOT

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4 SUKKOT

For more community listings, visit

ottawa.planitjewish.com



Dr. Henri Habib Lecture, sponsored by the Vered Israel Cultural Centre. Or. Habib will speak on Middle East Issues, 7:30 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 243.

> FRIOAY, OCTOBER 9 **EREV SHEMINI ATZERET**

SATUROAY, OCTOBER 10 SHEMINI ATZERET

SUNOAY, OCTOBER 11 SIMCHAT TORAH

SUNOAY, OCTOBER 18 Historical Walking Tour of Ottawa, covering areas settled by Jewish newcomers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Guide is architectural historian/ heritage consultant Hagit Hadaya. 10:00 am. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 254.

WEONESOAY, NOVEMBER 4 Meeting of the members of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-798-4696, ext. 236.

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Ottawa IntoCentre. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should send the information to intoCentre coordinator Benita Stembatycki via e-mail at belemiatycki@jewishottawa.com or fax at 613-798-4695. She can also be reached by telephone at 613-798-4644. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public.

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Condolences

Condolences are extended to the families of: Julia Kessler

Tauba Siemiatycki, Toronto (mother of Benita Siemiatycki) May their memory be a blessing always.

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN is offered as a public service to the community.

There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Carolene Preap, 613-798-4696, ext. 232. Voice mail is available.

SEPTEMBER 30 FOR OCTOBER 19 OCTOBER 14 FOR NOVEMBER 2 OCTOBER 28 FOR NOVEMBER 16 NOVEMBER 18 FOR DECEMBER 7*

2010

JANUARY 6 FOR JANUARY 25 JANUARY 20 FOR FEBRUARY 8 February 3 for February 22 February 17 for March 8

Community-wide Issue (all dates subject to change)